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THOMPSON (R. C.) & DOOLITTLE (S. P.). **Influence of temperature on the expression of big-vein symptoms in Lettuce.**—*Phytopathology*, xxxii, 6, pp. 542-544, 1 fig., 1942.

Big vein of lettuce, originally reported from the Imperial Valley of California [*R.A.M.*, xiv, p. 283], was observed during the last five years in New Jersey, Maryland, and North and South Carolina. In the greenhouse at Beltsville, Maryland, the typical symptoms of the disease, including enlargement and bleaching of the vascular regions of the petioles and leaf blades, veinbanding, and savoying, developed in plants maintained first at day and night temperatures of 65° to 75° and 50° to 60° F., respectively, then (at the stage of seed-stem elongation) for three weeks at 50° to 60° and 45° to 50°, respectively, and ultimately (until maturity) at the original day and night temperatures. The big-vein symptoms first became noticeable during the period of lowered temperatures and were completely obscured in the subsequent growth made after the restoration of warmer conditions, though persisting in the leaves formed while the drop in temperature was in operation.

SNYDER (W. C.) & RICH (S.). **Mosaic of Celery caused by the virus of Alfalfa mosaic.**—*Phytopathology*, xxxii, 6, pp. 537-539, 1 fig., 1942.

Golden Self Blanching celery was successfully inoculated with the aid of a carborundum abrasive at Berkeley, California, with juice from broad bean, *Petunia hybrida*, white clover (*Trifolium repens*), and *Melilotus indica* artificially infected by the lucerne mosaic virus from four localities in the State, the incidence of transmission [*R.A.M.*, xix, p. 358] being usually low but amounting in a few trials to 50 per cent. or more. The thermal inactivation point of the virus was found to lie between 60° and 65° C., its dilution end point to range from 1 in 2,000 to 1 in 3,000, and its longevity *in vitro* to persist for three to five days; it is transmissible by means of the pea aphid (*Illinoia [Macrosiphum] pisi*) [*ibid.*, xx, p. 472]. The recovery of the virus from celery was effected by the mechanical inoculation of such hosts as lucerne, broad bean, cowpea, *Vigna sesquipedalis*, soy-bean, petunia, sweet pea, and white clover. The symptoms induced by the virus on celery consist of a faint to prominent, yellow-green mosaic, mostly of the outer leaves, in severe cases presenting a conspicuous calico-like pattern of lemon-yellow patches on a green background. Other features of the disorder may include mild blistering, a tendency to foliar distortion, vein-clearing, and the formation of yellow or cleared rings or round areas of green tissue. A mosaic of this type is frequently present on celery growing in proximity to diseased lucerne, suggesting a direct connexion between the mosaic of the latter and the signs of infection on the former.

NIETHAMMER (ANNELEISE). **Beiträge über die Kulturfähigkeit des Champignons *Psalliota campestris*.** [Studies on the cultivation of the Mushroom *Psalliota campestris*.]—*Zbl. Bakt.*, Abt. 2, cv. 7-9, pp. 129-130, 1942.

The following media have given good results in the culture of the edible mushroom,

Psalliota campestris, at a temperature of 23° to 25° C., at the German Technical College, Prague, Czechoslovakia: 1.5 per cent. beer wort agar; soil decoction ($\frac{1}{2}$ kg. soil left to stand in 1½ l. water for 24 hours, then steamed for one hour, filtered, and 1 per cent. ammonium sulphate added); wood pulp moistened with a synthetic solution of Stapp and Bortels (*Zbl. Bakt.*, Abt. 2, xc, p. 48, 1934), consisting of 0.5 gm. ammonium sulphate, 0.25 gm. potassium phosphate, and 0.1 gm. magnesium sulphate, made up to 1,000 c.c. with tap water; and oat glumes moistened with the same solution and enriched with 1 per cent. horse liver or faecal extract.

GRATZ (L. O.). **The perfect stage of *Phomopsis vexans*.**—*Phytopathology*, xxxii, 6, pp. 540-542, 2 figs., 1942.

In the course of cultural studies on *Phomopsis vexans*, the agent of a serious disease of eggplant, at the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station in 1939 and 1941, the writer observed on 2 per cent. potato dextrose agar the development of perithecia, 130 to 350 μ in diameter, occurring in clusters embedded in the carbonaceous stromatic tissue, furnished with beak-like, carbonaceous, sinuate ostioles, 80 to 500 μ in length, and occupied by clavate, sessile, hyaline, thin-walled asci, 28 to 44 by 5 to 12 (average 36 by 8.9 μ), containing eight biserrate, hyaline, narrowly ellipsoid to bluntly fusoid, bicellular spores, 9 to 12 by 3 to 4.4 (10.8 by 3.7 μ). Inoculations on eggplant seedlings with perithecial or ascospore suspensions gave rise to the typical lesions of 'tip over' (the local name for the blight in Marion County) bearing pycnidia, though the spots were not as abundant as those resulting from infection with pycnospores. The perithecial stage of the fungus, which is named *Diaporthe vexans* (Sacc. & Syd.) n. comb., has not yet been observed in nature.

SNYDER (W. C.). **A seed-borne mosaic of Asparagus Bean, *Vigna sesquipedalis*.**—*Phytopathology*, xxxii, 6, pp. 518-523, 2 figs., 1942.

In 1938 a small proportion (3.3 per cent.) of a commercial lot of Yardlong asparagus beans (*Vigna sesquipedalis*) at the University of California, Berkeley, developed a pale and dark green foliar mosaic frequently accompanied by downward rolling of the leaflets, mild rugosity or distortion, veinbanding, and stunting. Often the dark green areas formed broad bands along the chief veins, the remainder of the leaf being lighter green. The virus was transmitted from diseased to healthy plants both by the mechanical inoculation of expressed juice and through the agency of the pea aphid, *Macrosiphum pisi*. Attempts to infect other legumes were mostly unsuccessful, but cowpeas responded to inoculation by the development of symptoms resembling those of cowpea mosaic [*R.A.M.*, xxi, p. 444] while the features of the disease on beans (*Phaseolus vulgaris*) were unlike those of common mosaic (bean virus 1). The asparagus bean virus was found to be transmissible through the seed to the extent of 37 per cent., approximating in this respect to the mosaics of bean, cowpea, and soy-bean (virus 1) [*ibid.*, xv, p. 418]. The thermal inactivation point of the asparagus bean virus was found to lie between 55° and 60° C., its longevity *in vitro* to persist for about two days, and its dilution end point to be situated nearer 1 in 1,000 than 1 in 3,000.

VASUDEVA (R. S.). **A mosaic disease of Cowpea.**—*Indian J. Agric. Sci.*, xii, 1, pp. 281-283, 2 pl., 2 figs., 1942.

Punjab type 1 cowpeas, inter-cropped with 'desi' cotton [*Gossypium indicum*] (Mollisoni 39 variety) in root-rot [*Macrophomina phaseoli* and *Corticium solani*] study plots at Lyallpur [*R.A.M.*, xxi, p. 450], developed symptoms of mosaic [*ibid.*, iv, p. 203; xx, p. 444], of which three forms were differentiated, characterized primarily by (1) generalized stunting, more especially of the upper parts of the plant, thick, wrinkled foliage, vein-clearing, mottling, the dark green areas alternating with the yellow patches being sometimes raised like blisters, and marginal undulations;

(2) uniform foliar chlorosis without thickening or distortion; and (3) very conspicuous mottling, with pale to vivid yellow areas, later turning brownish, dark reddish discolouration of the veins, including the midrib, and dark brown or reddish spots, 1 to 2 mm. wide, on the upper leaf surface. Some 15 per cent. of the plants were affected in the mixed plots (the cotton being quite healthy), and the disease was further observed in a pure stand of Punjab type 3 cowpeas at the students' farm.

Transverse sections through diseased leaves showing typical form (1) symptoms revealed fusion of the cuticle and epidermal layer at various places along the wavy margins, paucity of palisade cells, which contain few chloroplasts, and discontinuity and irregularity of the tissues, abnormality of the spongy parenchyma, thickening and enlargement of the sclerenchyma cells and xylem vessels, and dispersion and disarrangement of the vascular bundles; the spongy and palisade tissues appeared to have been partially replaced by a number of elongated and irregular cells.

The juice from leaves of plants showing all the three above-mentioned types of mosaic was introduced separately by smearing on to the pricked foliage of healthy plants, all of which developed yellow mottling without distortion within five days.

COOK (H. T.) & HARTER (L. L.). Wettable spergon not effective as a surface disinfectant of Sweet Potatoes used for seed.—*Plant Dis. Repr.*, xxvi, 9, p. 222, 1942. [Mimeographed.]

Experimental data are given showing that wettable spergon [*R.A.M.*, xxi, p. 360] is unsuitable for treating sweet potato 'seed' for the control of black rot (*Ceratostomella fimbriata*).

DAINES (R. H.). Spergon (chloranil) and scurf control of Sweet Potatoes.—*Plant Dis. Repr.*, xxvi, 7, pp. 160–161, 1942. [Mimeographed.]

Experimental data are given showing that treatment of sprouts from sweet potatoes severely affected by scurf (*Monilochaetes infuscans*) with wettable spergon [see preceding and next abstracts] (1 lb. to 5 qts. water) was less effective than with semesan bel (1 in 10).

DAVY (R. H.). Further evidence of the fungicidal value of spergon.—*Plant Dis. Repr.*, xxvi, 7, pp. 162–163, 1942. [Mimeographed.]

In greenhouse trials carried out in Oklahoma in 1941 and 1942 treatment of the seed of Virginia soy-beans and hairy vetch (*Vicia villosa*) with new improved ceresan ($\frac{1}{2}$ oz. per bush.) and spergon (tetrachloroquinone) [see preceding abstract] (2 oz. per bush.) effectively prevented seed rots and pre-emergence damping-off in soil naturally infested with *Rhizoctonia* [*Corticium*] *solani*, the means of emergence counts being 99 and 117.5 for soy-beans against 59 for the controls and the corresponding figures for vetch 160, 170, and 145, respectively. The differences between ceresan and spergon were not statistically significant.

PEYER (E.). Die Erfahrungen mit schwach konzentrierter Bordeauxbrühe bei der Mehltaubekämpfung in den Reben der deutschen Schweiz im Sommer 1941. [Experiences with dilute Bordeaux mixture for the control of Vine mildew in German Switzerland during the summer of 1941.]—*Schweiz. Z. Obst- u. Weinb.*, li, 8, pp. 173–178, 1942.

Over the whole of German Switzerland the effective control of vine downy mildew (*Peronospora*) [*Plasmopara viticola*] with dilute Bordeaux mixture (in connexion with the copper consumption economy campaign) [*R.A.M.*, xxi, p. 497] proved perfectly feasible in the summer of 1941, which was not, however, apart from the second half of June, a season conducive to intensive outbreaks of the disease. The correct timing of the treatments was more important than the concentrations of the Bordeaux mixture used and the following schedule was successfully adopted: one or two

pre-blossom sprays with 1 per cent. Bordeaux plus 1 per cent. lime-sulphur and two post-blossom with 1 to 1.5 per cent. Bordeaux plus 0.5 per cent. lime-sulphur, and supplementary treatments, where necessary, consisting of 1 to 1.5 per cent. Bordeaux only. The average consumption for four applications was 17.1 l. per acre [100 sq. m.] or 67 l. per 100 vines.

Fifty-fourth Annual Report of the Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station for the year 1941.—55 pp., [1942].

In this report on plant disease work in Kentucky in 1941 [R.A.M., xx, p. 561] it is stated that the White Burley tobacco variety Ky 16 has now been certified by the Kentucky Seed Improvement Association for four years, and that the certified seed is on sale. Over 60 per cent. of the Burley tobacco crop in Kentucky and the neighbouring states is Ky 16, which outyields the other commonly grown varieties in fields infected with black root rot [*Thielaviopsis basicola*: loc. cit.] and on clean land has given 10 to 30 per cent. heavier yields per acre than the stand-up Burley varieties generally grown.

Growers in areas where *Fusarium* wilt [*F. oxysporum* var. *nicotianae*: ibid., xix, p. 678] is causing injury are growing the resistant White Burley variety Ky 33. It is fast-growing and early-maturing, and gives a tobacco of satisfactory quality, but it is not recommended for areas where this particular disease is not found.

A strain of Burley tobacco (Ky 48-7) homozygous for the N factor, obtained from *Nicotiana glutinosa*, has proved to be virtually immune from tobacco mosaic [ibid., xxi, p. 227]. The plant resembles Ky 16 in appearance, but is smaller, and yields less; in comparative tests, Ky 48-7 yielded only 77 per cent. as much per acre as Ky 16. Because of the heavy losses from mosaic in dark tobacco, attempts are being made to produce mosaic-resistant strains of several of the dark tobacco varieties grown in western Kentucky by introducing the N factor. In the heterozygous condition (for N) the hybrid strains appear to be almost identical with the original dark varieties. Progress is also being achieved in the development of mosaic-resistant dark varieties of the Ambalema type, which are also resistant to *T. basicola*.

An outbreak of a disease of Burley tobacco near Lexington was ascertained to be due to a virus common in *Plantago major* [ibid., xxi, p. 227] and first reported by the Station in 1930 [ibid., xi, p. 7]. About 2 per cent. of the plants were much stunted and rather necrotic; they somewhat resembled plants affected with streak. On the Keeley and Pepper tobacco varieties the virus causes local necrotic lesions, sometimes followed by systemic necrosis and chlorosis, while on Turkish and Ky 16 Burley tobacco it induces a systemic mottle mosaic with a pattern differing somewhat from that of ordinary tobacco mosaic.

A virus disease of lucerne characterized by irregular, yellow, occasionally nearly white areas on a few leaflets per plant was transmitted mechanically to tobacco. Chlorotic, sometimes necrotic, ring-and-line patterns developed on rubbed tobacco leaves, followed by yellow to almost white ring patterns in new leaves, which were generally small and distorted. The condition was also transmitted mechanically to pepper [*Capsicum* sp.], tomato, and cucumber, but mechanical transmission to pokeweed [*Phytolacca decandra*] and garden bean [*Phaseolus vulgaris*] gave only necrotic spots. The virus appears to be a strain of *Marmor medicaginis* H. [lucerne mosaic virus].

The tobacco streak virus was transferred from tobacco to sweet clover [*Melilotus* sp.] through dodder [*Cuscuta campestris*: cf. ibid., xx, p. 590]; in the sweet clover it caused a ring spot-like mottling resembling a common field disease of sweet clover. The virus was re-transferred from sweet clover to tobacco by dodder in one trial.

A leaf spot apparently due to phosphorus deficiency was noted on Burley tobacco. The affected plants were small, and the leaves, especially at the basal halves, had a chlorotic cast; numerous necrotic, circular spots were observed on many of the leaves.

The phosphorus content of the leaves and soil was low. Later, affected plants became rare, the roots presumably occupying relatively larger soil volumes.

Conclusive evidence was obtained that *Bacterium angulatum* [*Pseudomonas angulata*: *ibid.*, *xxi*, p. 431] can overwinter in soil in the field. Between 2nd November, 1940, and 18th April, 1941, *P. angulata* was recovered from 37 out of 180 soil samples collected from fields where naturally infected tobacco had grown in 1940. From 542 soil samples collected from bluegrass [*Poa pratensis*] and clover fields *P. angulata* was isolated from 13 samples, each sample coming from a field adjacent to a tobacco field. The organism was isolated by pouring a water suspension of soil over the under-surface of a water-soaked leaf, the bacteria being obtained from the leaf spot. Other evidence suggested that the bacteria can be washed from infected leaves into the soil by rain, and that as few as three or four individuals suffice to cause leaf spotting.

BARDUCCI (T. B.). *Memoria anual de 1940 del Jefe del Departamento de investigaciones de Algodón y cereales, Estación Experimental Agrícola de La Molina, Lima, Perú.* [Annual Report for 1940 of the Head of the Cotton and Agricultural Experimental Station of La Molina, Lima, Peru.]—30 pp., 71 graphs, [?1941. Received October, 1942. English summary.]

The following items of phytopathological interest occur in this report. During the season of 1939 to 1940 studies were conducted on 26 Tangüis cotton selections and the progenies of 378 plants phenotypically resistant to wilt (*Verticillium* sp.) [*R.A.M.*, *xix*, p. 212] from which 13 of the former and 61 of the latter, besides 202 phenotypically immune individuals, were reserved for further trials in connexion with the work of breeding for immunity from the disease. The average percentages of wilt in the selections and control variety (Huáscará, current season) at 93, 121, 155, 188, and 212 days were 6.81, 16.28, 21.01, 22.11 and 87.21, and 10.81, 29.40, 40.93, 44.29 and 92.29 respectively. In 1933-4 and 1937-8 the maximum incidence of wilt developed during a period extending from 100 to 140 days after sowing, when the optimum soil temperature (22° C.) for the growth of the pathogen at a depth of 5 cm. to 1 m. prevails. In 1938-9 and 1939-40 the selected strains were not attacked during the critical period, indicating an increase in genotypic resistance.

Progress is also reported in breeding wheat varieties resistant to black rust (*Puccinia graminis*), a limiting factor in the cultivation of the crop [*ibid.*, *xxi*, p. 184].

STARR (M. P.) & BURKHOLDER (W. H.). *Lipolytic activity of phytopathogenic bacteria determined by means of spirit blue agar and its taxonomic significance.*—*Phytopathology*, *xxxii*, 7, pp. 598-604, 1942.

The writers describe and tabulate the results of their studies on the lipolytic properties of 65 phytopathogenic species and varieties of the genus *Phytomonas* Bergey *et al.* [*R.A.M.*, *xxi*, p. 364], 206 isolates of which were cultured on plates of spirit blue-cottonseed oil-tryptone yeast extract agar (*Science*, N.S., *xciii*, pp. 333-334, 1941). Of 24 members of the *Xanthomonas* [*ibid.*, *xviii*, p. 659] group, 21 were found to be actively lipolytic, viz., *X. barbareae*, *X. begoniae*, *X. campestris* and its var. *armoraciae*, *X. corylina*, *X. geranii*, *X. gummosudans*, *X. holcicola*, *X. juglandis*, *X. papavericola*, *X. pelargonii*, *X. phaseoli* (some strains of which were over 15 years old) and its variants *fusca*ns and *sojense*, *X. pruni*, *X. translucens* and its var. *undulosa*, *X. vascularum*, *X. vesicatoria* and its var. *raphani*, and *X. sp.* from stock (*Matthiola incana*) [*ibid.*, *xviii*, p. 257]. Lipolysis was effected, on the other hand, by only four of the 27 species of *Pseudomonas* tested, namely, *P. alliicola*, *P. caryophylli*, *P. marginata*, and *P. polycolor*, and by none of the 18 gall-forming organisms and related Rhizobiaceae. Slight or doubtful lipolytic activity was exerted by *Corynebacterium fascians*, but the other three species of this Gram-positive genus failed to decompose the lipoids in the medium, the same applying to the three representatives of the

Gram-negative *Phytomonas* [X.] *stewarti* group [cf. *ibid.*, xxi, p. 282], except for weak capacity for lipolysis on the part of *P. manihotis* [*ibid.*, xxi, p. 325]. The well-marked differences between the various groups in respect of their fat-splitting attributes should prove helpful in the relegation of individual species to their several genera.

GILL (L. S.). **Death in the desert.**—*Nat. Hist.*, N.Y., 1, 1, pp. 23-26, 9 figs., 1942.

A semi-popular account is given of the researches now in progress, under the joint auspices of the University of Arizona (J. G. Brown), the Bureau of Plant Industry, and the United States Department of Agriculture, on the virulent stem rot [*Erwinia carnegieana*] of the giant cactus or saguaro (*Carnegiea gigantea*) in the Tucson and Phoenix districts [*R.A.M.*, xxi, p. 365], where mortality is heaviest in the 150- to 200-year-old age class. Since the trees contain over 90 per cent. water by weight, they are extremely resistant to heat and diseased material cannot be disposed of by burning; burial pits have therefore been dug for the accommodation of the dead trunks, which have to be sawn into short lengths (one of 5 ft. weighing 1,500 lb.) and transported by a portable crane. After fumigation the butt sections are treated with a volatile disinfectant and covered with tarpaulin for several days before the pits are closed with soil. Promising results have been given by excision of the infected tissues at an early stage.

MARCHIONATTO (J. B.). **Las enfermedades de las plantas cultivadas de la Argentina y sus problemas.** [The diseases of cultivated plants in the Argentine and the problems connected with them.]—*Chron. bot.*, vii, 4, pp. 163-164, 1942.

The author reviews the existing literature on diseases of economic plants in the Argentine and sums up the present plant disease situation as follows. Most diseases of cereals occurring in the country are being controlled by the introduction of resistant varieties. Thus, hybrid 38 M.A., Sinvalocho M.A., and other wheats resistant to *Puccinia triticina* [*R.A.M.*, xx, p. 9] are now used in place of Lin Calel M.A. There are no resistant varieties in the case of *P. graminis tritici* [*ibid.*, xxi, p. 247], but some hardy ones, which escape infection in the humid region, where this disease is predominant. *P. glumarum* [*ibid.*, xx, p. 9], which appeared relatively recently (1929), but in a very virulent form, necessitated the elimination of the susceptible variety Record, and its replacement by resistant varieties (Klein Acero and others) while additional varieties are being developed in collaboration with workers in both Americas. Wheat bunt, *Tilletia tritici* [*T. caries*] and *T. laevis* [*T. foetida*: *ibid.*, xxi, p. 246], predominant in the semi-arid regions (south of Córdoba and Santa Fe), has been controlled by the dry method of seed-grain disinfection. In the control of *Ustilago tritici* on wheat, the generally recommended seed-grain disinfection can in practice be applied only on large farms provided with the necessary installations, and the use of resistant varieties, such as 38 M.A., is therefore recommended. It is suggested that studies on the antagonism between micro-organisms may reveal methods of controlling *Ophiobolus graminis* [*loc. cit.*] and *Helminthosporium sativum* on wheat, since crop rotation, as recommended at present, can only reduce, but not eliminate, these parasites. Most of the varieties of maize cultivated in the country are stated to be resistant to *U. zeae*, which is the most common disease of this crop. *U. hordei* [*loc. cit.*] and *U. nuda* attack barley with some frequency; the same methods of control are effective against them as against wheat bunt and loose smut. The development of resistant varieties is further important for the control of *H. [Pyrenophora] teres* on barley (the most common disease on this host and sometimes very destructive when occurring together with *H. sativum* and *H. gramineum* [*loc. cit.*]), *Puccinia coronata* on oats, *P. dispersa* [*P. secalina*] on rye, and *Piricularia oryzae* on rice. The last-named, though of recent appearance in

the country, has been very virulent in the northern rice-growing region (Salta and Tucumán).

CLAASEN (C. E.), VOGEL (O. A.), & GAINES (E. F.). **The inheritance of reaction of Turkey-Florence-1 × Oro-1 to race 8 of *Tilletia levis*.**—*J. Amer. Soc. Agron.*, xxxiv, 8, pp. 687-694, 1 graph, 1942.

The F_1 , F_2 , and F_3 generations of crosses consisting of the three possible combinations of Oro-1, (Turkey-Florence)-1, and selection 9 of Oro × Turkey-Florence and six F_4 families of (T-F)-1 and Oro-1, chosen at random, were tested for their reaction to wheat bunt (*Tilletia levis*) [*T. foetida*] (race L-8) [*R.A.M.*, xvii, p. 381] under identical environmental conditions at the Washington Agricultural Experiment Station in 1939. Oro-1 is highly susceptible to the physiologic race used in the tests, while (T-F)-1 and selection 9 are both resistant. A major and at least one minor factor carried by (T-F)-1 appeared to account for the segregation of reaction of the cross between this variety and Oro-1. In the case of crosses between selection 9 and Oro-1 and (T-F)-1, the first-named carried only the major factor for resistance. The three parents represent three of the four homozygous genotypes possible under the two-factor hypothesis, the fourth being apparently typified by two F_4 families. Segregation of the major factor in combination with the minor homozygous resistant factor seems to have been attained in an F_4 family.

KARGOPOLOVA (Mme N. N.). Внутрисортовые скрещивания и повышение устойчивости яровых Пшениц к твердой головне. [Intravarietal crosses and the increased resistance of summer Wheats to bunt.]—Яровизация [*Vernalization*], iii (36), pp. 67-69, 3 graphs, 1941.

The results of experiments conducted near Leningrad during 1939 and 1940 showed that resistance to bunt [*Tilletia caries*: *R.A.M.*, xxi, p. 190] was greater in the F_2 progenies from crosses within a variety of wheat than in the progenies from selfed plants of the same variety. For example, 19.1 per cent. of the F_2 progenies from crosses within the variety Toulun ZA/32, were very resistant (0.1 to 5 per cent. infection), over 60 per cent. showed 0.1 to 15 per cent., and none over 40 per cent. while the corresponding figures for the selfed group were 1.8, 24, and 20 per cent., this last figure including plants showing up to 65 per cent. infection. In tests with the same variety during the following season, 52 per cent. of the F_2 progenies from crosses within the variety showed 0.1 to 40 per cent. infection, and 7.2 per cent. exhibited 60 to 64 per cent. infection, whereas 12 per cent. of the progenies from selfed plants showed 0.1 to 40 per cent. infection, and 42 per cent. exhibited 60 to 70 per cent. infection.

HELY (F. W.) & LUDBROOK (W. V.). **The effects of sodium chloride and of two manganese salts on the growth of Wheat and its susceptibility to *Ophiobolus graminis* Sacc.**—*J. Coun. sci. industr. Res. Aust.*, xv, 2, pp. 124-128, 1 pl. (between pp. 184 and 185), 1942.

In a field experiment the growth of wheat (total dry weight of aerial parts shortly before maturity) was increased by soil treatment, before sowing, with potassium permanganate and decreased by sodium chloride. The difference between these treatments was significant, but the difference between them and the control was not. An application of manganous sulphate had no significant effect. When each of these treatments was applied to wheat inoculated with *Ophiobolus graminis*, the fungus significantly depressed growth, but no evidence was obtained of any interaction between the fungus and the salts.

In two experiments in containers, in two successive years, the pathogenicity of *O. graminis* to wheat was reduced by the addition to the soil of sodium chloride at a concentration injurious to the wheat.

LUDBROOK (W. V.). Root amputation experiments with Wheat under dry conditions, in relation to attack by *Ophiobolus graminis*.—*J. Coun. sci. industr. Res. Aust.*, xv, 2, pp. 129-134, 1942.

At four stages of growth the root systems of Bencubbin wheat plants growing in the field near Canberra were injured experimentally by severing the subcrown internodes or by amputating the crown roots. The symptoms produced in the aerial parts by the former operation, and (though to a much smaller extent) by the latter, were indistinguishable from those seen on other plants in the same crop in which the subcrown internodes or seminal roots were rotted by natural infection with *Ophiobolus graminis*. The surface soil was very dry during the greater part of the growing period, and severing the subcrown internodes caused more damage at all stages of growth than amputation of the crown roots. It would, therefore, appear that when the surface soil is dry, the chief source of injury by *O. graminis* to wheat surviving the seedling stage may be want of the moisture which would be taken from the subsoil by the seminal root system, if not injured or destroyed by the fungus.

WHITE (N. H.). The genetics of *Ophiobolus graminis* Sacc. 1. Heritable variations for culture colour and pathogenicity.—*J. Coun. sci. industr. Res. Aust.*, xv, 2, pp. 118-124, 3 pl. (between pp. 184 and 185), 1 fig., 1942.

To determine whether discontinuous variations in culture colour on potato dextrose agar and in pathogenicity on wheat observed by the author among isolations of *Ophiobolus graminis* were heritable, a genetic study of the fungus was made with reference to the characters for pathogenicity on a single wheat variety and to culture colour on potato dextrose agar.

Eight single-spore isolates from a single ascus fell into two colour groups, four of the isolates being pale and four dark. In the dark cultures the mycelium consisted of hyaline microhyphae and dark olivaceous macrohyphae, while in the pale cultures it consisted entirely of hyaline microhyphae. Of the dark cultures two were homotypes for aerial hyphae, and two for flat colony surface; of the pale cultures, two were homotypes for white aerial hyphae, and two for flat colony surface.

Each isolate was pathogenic to wheat, and according to the degree of pathogenicity shown there were two groups of four isolates, one severely, the other mildly, pathogenic. The former was characterized by the many plants killed by seedling blight and by the severe stunting of the survivors, while the yield was negligible; the latter was characterized by the relatively numerous plants that survived seedling blight and reached maturity, and by less stunting. When the test was repeated a year later, identical results were obtained.

The evidence demonstrated the presence of four phenotypes, two isolates belonging to each. These were (i) dark and mildly pathogenic, (ii) dark and severely pathogenic, (iii) pale and mildly pathogenic, and (iv) pale and severely pathogenic. Hence, the ascus contained four pairs of spores differing in character for pathogenicity and culture colour.

As the thallus of *O. graminis* is haploid, the effect of a single set of genes may be observed without the complications of dominance. The characteristics of each of the eight isolates, which were derived from a diploid primary ascus nucleus by reduction division, are due to a single set of genes. As there were four isolates of each of two phenotypes for colour and for pathogenicity, segregation occurred during ascosporegenesis, and the primary ascus was heterozygous. The production of four pairs of spores in one ascus suggests that segregation for one pair of factors occurred in the first division, and for the other pair in the second division of sporogenesis. This is explicable on the assumption that crossing-over of one pair of factors occurred at the pachytene stage in the first nuclear division. This resulted in one pair of factors segregating reductionally at the first meiotic division and the other pair of factors segregating equationally at the second meiotic division of the primary ascus.

The suggestion that characters for pathogenicity in *O. graminis* and other pathogenic ascomycetous fungi are Mendelian is supported by the fact that segregation for pathogenicity occurs during ascosporogenesis in *Venturia inaequalis*.

GLYNNE (MARY D.). *Cercospora herpotrichoides* Fron, causing eyespot of Wheat in Great Britain.—*Ann. appl. Biol.*, xxix, 3, pp. 254-264, 1 pl., 1942.

Surveys of wheat crops in England in 1941 showed that when there is a high percentage of straw infection by *Cercospora herpotrichoides* [R.A.M., xx, pp. 295, 396; xxi, p. 124] the probability of general lodging in heavy crops is greatly increased. Individual straw lodging occurs in both light and heavy crops, the straws falling in all directions. The condition may, it is estimated, cause a reduction in grain yield of 30 per cent. A survey of 170 fields selected at random in 16 counties revealed that eye spot increased in frequency and severity as the fields were situated progressively further east; thus, in North Wales and the eastern counties (Lincolnshire, Cambridgeshire, and Norfolk) 3·6 and 84·5 per cent. of the fields, respectively, were affected, the corresponding figures for the areas lodged being 1·1 and 16·4 per cent., and for the areas of the district under wheat in 1939 0·17 and 12·89 per cent., respectively.

In three independent surveys 235 fields included 118 in which no barley or wheat had been grown for four years, and 37 of these showed infection, under 20 per cent. of the straws being infected in each field; there were 115 fields in which wheat or barley had been grown at least once in the preceding four years, and of these 89 showed infection, over half of them with more than 20 per cent. straw infection. Infections of over 20 and over 70 per cent. occurred in a few fields in which the last wheat or barley crop had been grown in 1937 or 1938, but such figures were most common where wheat or barley (or one of each) had been grown during at least two of the preceding four years.

It is concluded that eye spot will probably become more prevalent in wheat-growing areas under war-time conditions. Lengthening the rotation would reduce infection. If wheat is to be grown on land where severe infection has occurred, suitable preventive methods should be applied, including reduction of atmospheric moisture round the base of the plant, especially in spring by means of good drainage, thin sowing, wide spacing of rows, use of sparsely tillering varieties, and the checking of excessive spring growth. Short-strawed varieties might well be tried. Records should be made of the effects of these measures.

[A popular account of this disease, incorporating the results of investigations here recorded, is given by the author in *J. Minist. Agric., Lond.*, xlix, 2, pp. 91-94, 4 figs., 1942.]

NOVER (J.). Untersuchungen über den Weizenmehltau, *Erysiphe graminis* tritici, im Rahmen der Resistenzzüchtung. [Studies on Wheat mildew, *Erysiphe graminis* tritici, in relation to breeding for resistance.]—*Z. PflZücht.*, xxiv, p. 71, 1941. [Abs. in *Züchter*, xiv, 5, p. 125, 1942.]

At the Agricultural and Plant Breeding Institute, Halle, the writer carried out greenhouse inoculation experiments with two physiologic races of *Erysiphe graminis* tritici on over 800 varieties and selections of winter and summer wheat [R.A.M., xix, p. 206]. Nearly all the winter types proved to be susceptible, with the exception of some individual plants from collections made by the German Hindu Kush expedition, but there was a higher incidence of resistance among the summer wheats, both indigenous and exotic. The results of tests on an assortment of 16 varieties with 'populations' of 50 German mildew collections revealed that in 22 'populations' a single physiologic race predominated. Field observations pointed to the gradual acquisition with advancing maturity of resistance to certain races of the pathogen in some varieties irrespective of the reactions displayed in the seedling stage, while a form of field resistance evidently conditioned by environmental factors was also

noticed. In hybridization trials resistance proved to be dominant: of six crosses, two (with the resistant Dixon C.I. 6295) segregated on a definitely monomerous basis in the F_2 , while the other four (with Illinois No. 1 selection 47 and Normandie) segregated in the ratio of 4 to 6.5 resistant : 1 susceptible.

BEVER (W. M.). **A nonpathogenic buff-coloured Barley smut.**—*Phytopathology*, xxxii, 7, pp. 637-639, 1 fig., 1942.

In September, 1936, in connexion with a study at the Idaho Agricultural Experiment Station of the genetics of hybrids between a physiologic race of *Ustilago hordei* and two of *U. nigra*, F_1 chlamydospores were obtained on Odessa barley (C.I. 934) from infection with paired monosporidial lines of the two smuts, and used, together with those of subsequent generations, for the reinoculation of seed of the Nepal (C.I. 595), Lion (C.I. 923), and Himalaya (C.I. 1312) varieties. One plant of the first-named bore two identical buff-smutted heads containing F_3 chlamydospores, which were hyaline, glabrous, and intermediate in size between *U. hordei* and *U. nigra*, the sporidia being long, narrow, rather pointed, and smaller than those of either of the parent smuts, though approximating more closely to the latter. Spore germination was irregular, two or three firmly adhering sporidia on a promycelium, instead of the normal four, being of fairly common occurrence. Sporidial fusion in culture disclosed the existence of two sex groups [R.A.M., xiv, p. 353], but no infection was produced on the Nepal or Odessa variety by inoculation with chlamydospores or paired monosporidial lines, suggesting that sex and pathogenicity are governed by different factors.

Science for the farmer.—*Rep. Pa agric. Exp. Sta. 1940-41* (Bull. 414), 63 pp., 19 figs., 3 graphs, 1941.

On p. 13 of this report [cf. R.A.M., xx, p. 104] it is stated that as a result of steadily increasing popularity following trial distribution, the 90A-27 oat strain, which is resistant to smut [*Ustilago avenae* and *U. kollerii*: ibid., xxi, pp. 329, 367], has been released for certification. Some 3,000 acres of this strain were grown in Pennsylvania in 1940, and no severe criticism was received. It is high-yielding under the conditions prevailing in the central parts of the State, and very resistant to smut.

HAGEMAN (R. H.), McHARGUE (J. S.), SHERMAN (G. D.), & HODGE (E. S.). **The production of grey speck of Oats in purified sand cultures.**—*J. Amer. Soc. Agron.*, xxxiv, 8, pp. 731-735, 1 fig., 1942.

At the Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station typical grey speck developed in the very susceptible Wolverine variety [R.A.M., xxi, p. 193] growing in a sand culture devoid of manganese, but there was a sufficiency of this element in the chemicals composing the unpurified 'three-salt solution' (*Plant Physiol.*, xv, pp. 727-733, 1940) to prevent the development of the disease in an acute form, while culture solutions containing 2 p.p.m. manganese supported normal growth.

KERNKAMP (M. F.). **The relative effect of environmental and genetic factors on growth types of *Ustilago zeae*.**—*Phytopathology*, xxxii, 7, pp. 554-567, 1942.

Further studies at the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station on the relative effects of environmental and genetic factors on the three growth types of maize smut (*Ustilago zeae*) [R.A.M., xviii, p. 670] confirmed previous conclusions, namely, that the specifically sporidial and mycelial lines are unalterably fixed, whereas those of intermediate tendency may be shifted in one direction or the other by various external stimuli, of which dextrose (100 gm. per l.) was the most effective in the production of sporidia, while mycelial development was favoured by conditions repressive to the growth of the organism, e.g., the addition to the medium of poisons (mercuric chloride, copper sulphate, lead acetate, and iron chloride) or toxic dyes (including

malachite green), low concentrations of essential nutrients, and a reduction in the amount of oxygen in the atmosphere. Grown on extracts of 'natural' substrata, i.e., soil, silage, manure, and maize, the intermediate lines also tended to assume a predominantly mycelial character, probably reflecting the normal course pursued by the smut in the field.

MOULTON (J. E.). Extraction of auxin from Maize, from smut tumors of Maize, and from *Ustilago zeae*.—*Bot. Gaz.*, ciii, 4, pp. 725-739, 1942.

In experiments in the extraction of auxin from smut (*Ustilago zeae*) tumours of maize, water extraction yielded more auxin than ether. Dry ether extracts were inactive. For the liberation of auxin from the tumour tissues water is necessary, its action, possibly, being hydrolytic. The maize tumours yielded auxin slowly with either water or ether extraction, whereas the auxin was almost entirely removed from mats of the fungus itself in one ether extraction. Tumours from maize leaves and stems gave more auxin than healthy leaves and stems. Strains of *U. zeae* grown on a synthetic medium devoid of protein and amino acids produced auxin. Extracts of organic and inorganic types of medium upon which the fungus had grown for two months contained much auxin, the amount being virtually the same for each type of medium. Solopathogenic strains of *U. zeae* [cf. *R.A.M.*, xix, p. 528], except in one case, produced more auxin than non-solopathogenic strains, and the pathogenicity of strains would appear to be correlated with ability to produce auxin in a lacto-tryptone or synthetic medium.

LINCOLN (R. E.) & GOWEN (J. W.). Mutation of *Phytomonas stewartii* by X-ray irradiation.—*Genetics*, xxvii, 4, pp. 441-462, 2 pl., 1942.

At the Iowa Agricultural Experiment Station the writers conducted a comparative study of the mutations occurring in two strains, rough and smooth, of *Phytomonas* [*Xanthomonas*] *stewartii* [*R.A.M.*, xix, p. 468], the agent of vascular wilt in maize, under natural conditions and as a response to the stimulus of X irradiation of low quantum energy, operating at an intensity such that 100,000,000 viable cells suspended in broth were reduced to 1,000 during a 25-minute treatment. Variations were observed in colony colour, surface appearance, and size, the spontaneous and X-ray-induced mutations differing only in the greater frequency of the latter. The modifications of colony characters under observation may be either more or less pathogenic to maize than the parent strains. Apart from mutations to an unstable form, the mutants developing in these experiments were apparently equally stable with the parent strains from which they proceeded. The terms 'mutant', 'variant', 'saltant', and 'dissociant', as applied to bacteria, are regarded as synonyms descriptive of the phenomena resulting from gene mutation, the physical basis of inheritance being similar in *X. stewartii* to that of higher organisms.

MELCHERS (L. E.). On the cause of the Milo disease.—*Phytopathology*, xxxii, 7, pp. 640-641, 1942.

Recent studies at the Kansas Agricultural Experiment Station, carried out with the aid of D. B. Creager and C. M. Slagg, have shown that the root, crown, and shoot rot of milo sorghum commonly ascribed to *Pythium arrhenomanes* [*R.A.M.*, xx, p. 298] is actually due to a more complex set of factors to be discussed in detail in another paper. The fungus is equally virulent on susceptible strains of milo and on those known to be resistant to the root rot, and moreover, neither seedlings nor older plants grown in sterile or non-sterile soil containing pure cultures of the organism contracted the typical symptoms of the disease. It is thus evident that other micro-organisms, environmental conditions, or contributory factors must be involved in the etiology of the milo rot.

COWART (F. F.). **The effect of magnesium deficiency in Grapefruit trees upon the composition of fruit.**—*Proc. Amer. Soc. hort. Sci.*, xl, pp. 161-164, 1942.

In field experiments with Duncan and March grapefruit trees exhibiting severe magnesium deficiency [R.A.M., xx, p. 461], started in Florida in 1937, plots receiving a fertilizer containing no magnesium continued to show severe symptoms, those treated with fertilizer containing 2 per cent. magnesium oxide from magnesium sulphate showed only slight symptoms, while the addition of 4 per cent. magnesium oxide induced complete recovery. Analyses of fruits from all three plots showed that those from plots with no symptoms have the highest content of total soluble solids and sugars, vitamin C, and citric acid, while those from plots with the most severe symptoms have the lowest. The differences were slightly less pronounced during the early part of the season than at later dates. It is concluded from these data that a magnesium deficiency in grapefruit leads to a shortage of those components which are to a large extent responsible for the internal quality of the fruit. The improvement in internal quality of the fruit following the application of fertilizers containing magnesium is attributed to the great increase in leaf area and general efficiency of the foliage on these trees.

AVERNA-SACCÁ (R.). **Contribuição para o estudo das doenças cryptogâmicas das plantas cítricas. Uma gombose produzida por Dothiorella.** [A contribution to the study of the fungal diseases of Citrus plants. A gummosis caused by *Dothiorella*.]—*Rev. Agric., Piracicaba*, xiii, 3-4, 22 pp., 13 figs. (2 col.), 1938. [Received October, 1942.]

This is a detailed study of the morphological and cultural characters of *Botryosphaeria (Dothiorella) ribis*, the agent of a serious die-back and gummosis of citrus in São Paulo, Brazil, where the more susceptible species include Galician and sweet (*Citrus limia*) lemons [R.A.M., xix, p. 659], citron, Persian and Navel limes (*C. bergamia* and *C. limetta*), and Coronel and Pear oranges (*C. corniculata* and *C. piriiforme*) [ibid., xvii, p. 171], bitter and Satsuma oranges and tangerines being semi-immune.

LEPESME (P.). **Ennemis et maladies du Cafier en Afrique intertropicale. Diagnose pratique et moyens de lutte.** [Pests and diseases of Coffee in intertropical Africa. Practical diagnosis and control measures.]—63 pp., 39 figs., Paris, Larose, 1941. [Abs. in *Z. PflKrankh.*, lli, 6, p. 317, 1942.]

This treatise deals primarily with the diseases of the coffee crop in French Equatorial Africa and the Cameroons, the subject-matter being arranged under the various organs of the host. The diseases are in the main identical with those occurring in other parts of tropical Africa, but the approach to control problems is somewhat different in the west, where prophylactic treatments with Bordeaux mixture against *Hemileia vastatrix*, for instance, are recommended at the beginning and end of the rainy season. A separate section is devoted to indirect control by means of cultural measures, based on personal experience.

NEAL (D. C.). **Rhizoctonia infection of Cotton and symptoms accompanying the disease in plants beyond the seedling stage.**—*Phytopathology*, xxxii, 7, p. 641, 1942.

An uncommon phase of the cotton damping-off due to *Rhizoctonia (Corticium vagum)* [*C. solani*] was noted in the Louisiana Delta in 1940 and 1941. Many of the plants in the early flowering stage, 7 to 14 in. high, were almost devoid of lateral roots, semi-prostrate, and with few fruiting branches. The stems bore deep-seated cankers above and below the soil-line, and many showed characteristic constrictions almost severing the stems just beneath the surface. About 90 per cent. of the cultures from infected tissues yielded *C. solani*. In cold, wet spring weather, therefore, the

disease, which is ordinarily confined to early-planted cotton seedlings, may persist sufficiently late to cause appreciable damage to older plants.

DASTUR (J. F.). Effect of Cotton seed disinfection on yield.—*Indian J. agric. Sci.*, xii, 2, pp. 364-367, 1942.

In experiments conducted during the five-year period from 1936 to 1941 at Nagpur to determine the effect on yield of cotton seed disinfection against *Pythium* sp., *Rhizoctonia* [*Corticium*] *solani* [R.A.M., xxi, p. 450], *R.* sp., *Sclerotium rolfsii*, and *Colletotrichum indicum* [ibid., xx, p. 149], the following percentage increases of production resulting from treatment were recorded: agrosan G from 1.7 to 38.3, hortosan B [ibid., xviii, p. 373] from 9.1 to 44.6, abavit B, from 5.9 to 40.3, ceresan from 16.3 to 25.9, copper carbonate from 8.2 to 38.9, sulphur from 12.4 to 33.7, and sulphuric acid for delinting from 8.7 to 10.4, the first three being used at the rate of 1 oz. per 28 lb., the next two at 2 oz., and the last at 20 parts by volume. Ceresan not being on the Indian market, and the delinting process impracticable for the ordinary cultivator, these two modes of treatment were discontinued after 1939. In further trials at various localities from 1939 to 1941, agrosan G induced increased yields ranging from 2 to 31.2 per cent., copper carbonate from 4.7 to 19.0, and sulphur from 1.9 to 32.5. In spite of certain inconsistencies in the results, the fungicidal treatment of cotton seed may be recommended as calculated to stimulate germination and ensure a reduction in the incidence of loss from disease.

PARKIN (E. A.). Symbiosis and Siricid woodwasps.—*Ann. appl. Biol.*, xxix, 3, pp. 268-274, 2 figs., 1942.

A study of the association between the woodwasps *Sirex gigas* and *S. cyaneus* and the fungi with which they live in symbiosis [R.A.M., xix, p. 213] demonstrated that one species only, *Stereum sanguinolentum*, is present in the intersegmental sacs at the anterior end of the ovipositor of adult females. The egg becomes infected with oidia at the beginning of its passage down the ovipositor, and when it has been deposited in timber, mycelial growth begins. The fungus passes into the wood before the larva, which is probably mycetophagous, at least to some extent. The hypopleural organs, found in a proportion of the larvae, also contain the same fungus. No fungus was observed in pupae, and it is thought that *S. sanguinolentum* must grow from the walls of the pupal chamber into the intersegmental sacs of the immature female immediately after emergence from the pupal skin.

DESFORGES (A.). Mycoses des pieds (pieds d'athlète) : diagnostic et traitement. [Mycoses of the feet (athlete's foot): diagnosis and treatment.]—*Un. méd. Can.*, lxxi, 9, pp. 940-941, 1942.

'Athlete's foot', without doubt the commonest skin disorder in the United States [R.A.M., viii, p. 781 *et passim*], is stated to be equally prevalent in Canada, where it is attributable to *Epidermophyton inguinale* [*E. floccosum*].

KOERTH (C. J.), McCORKLE (R. G.), & DONALDSON (J. M.). Fungus diseases of the lung.—*Tex. St. J. Med.*, xxxviii, 1, pp. 8-14, 12 figs., 1942.

Attention is drawn to the risks of insufficient evidence for the diagnosis of pulmonary tuberculosis, which is frequently simulated by such mycotic infections of the lung as bronchomoniaisis, actinomycosis, and aspergillosis. In the four cases reported from the Woodmen of the World Hospital, San Antonio, Texas, species of *Actinomycetes*, *Aspergillus*, *Monilia* [*Candida*] *tropicalis*, and possibly *M. candida* [*C. vulgaris*] were cultured from the sputum.

NOTTEBOHM (T.) & NEGRONI (P.). Queilitis por *Candida suaveolens* [(Lindner) Ciferri]. [Cheilitis due to *Candida suaveolens* (Lindner) Ciferri.]—Rev. argent. Dermatosif., xxiv, 3, pp. 294-298, 1 fig., 1940. [French and English summaries.]

A fungus isolated on Sabouraud's media from the scales of labial cheilitis in a 21-year-old male patient was classified as *Candida suaveolens* (Lindner) Ciferri, although it differed from Langeron and Guerra's description [R.A.M., xviii, p. 253] in its negative auxanograms for lactose, urea, and ammonium sulphate. The organism multiplies exclusively by budding, the cells being globular, oval, or elongated, and measuring on the 45th day in liquid beerwort 3.7 by 2.8 to 9.3 by 9.3 and 9.3 by 3.7 μ . The auxanograms for glucose, galactose, maltose, lactose, saccharose, raffinose, and peptone were positive.

MIDDLETON (J. T.), TUCKER (C. M.), & TOMPKINS (C. M.). Pythium disease of fibrous-rooted Begonia and its control. —J. agric. Res., lxv, 2, pp. 89-95, 2 figs., 1942.

This is an expanded account of a disease of fibrous-rooted begonia, caused by *Pythium debaryanum*, *P. ultimum*, and *P. splendens* in California and Missouri, of which a short version has already been noticed [R.A.M., xviii, p. 113]. In potted plants the disease was found to be favoured by excessive watering, particularly when the water was sprinkled, and by a temperature range of between 60° and 70° F. The minimum, optimum, and maximum temperatures for growth were found to be 4°, 28° to 31°, and 37°, respectively, for *P. debaryanum*; 10°, 28° to 31°, and 34° for *P. splendens*; and 4°, 25° to 28°, and 37° for *P. ultimum*. The last-named fungus proved to be pathogenic to spinach, sweet william, rocket larkspur (*Delphinium ajacis*), cauliflower, *Rzedia odorata*, *Godetia grandiflora*, *Schizanthus pinnatus*, and cucumber, but not to the other 34 species of test plants, belonging to 32 genera in 19 families. Pure cultures of all three fungi caused approximately 90 per cent. damping-off in potted tomatoes when added to the sterile soil in which they were sown. It is suggested that the disease can be controlled in the greenhouse by steam sterilization of the flats and soil and by proper spacing and careful watering of the plants, while after transplantation out of doors, the degree of new infection can be materially lowered by keeping the plants relatively dry. One pink-flowering hybrid, for which the name *Calino* is proposed, was found in repeated experiments to be immune from *P. ultimum* in the open as well as in the greenhouse.

LANGDON (R. F.). The genus *Cerebella* Cesati—its biological status and use. —Phytopathology, xxxii, 7, pp. 613-617, 1942.

Following a brief survey of the literature on the genus *Cerebella* Cesati 1851, the writer states that since May, 1940, collections of *C. inquinans* have been made on 13 species of grass in south-eastern Queensland, always in association with numerous *Claviceps conina* [R.A.M., xxi, p. 21]. *Cerebella inquinans* was isolated from the spikelets of each of the hosts and cultured on potato dextrose agar, on which the characteristic cerebriform stroma of the genus develops in a few days; potato slices or potato agar with sucrose, glucose, or honey were also suitable media for spore production by the fungus. The inoculation of *Paspalum dilatatum* and *P. orbiculare* with a spore suspension of *C. inquinans* alone gave negative results, but the former host responded to artificial infection with a mixture of conidia of *C. inquinans* and *Claviceps paspali* [Ind., xxi, p. 452] by the production of an exudate of honey-dew in a week, the typical stromata of *C. inquinans* appearing two to three days later on the ergotized spikelets. These results, taken in conjunction with those reported by previous workers, indicate that species of *Cerebella* occur merely as saprophytes on any substratum rich in carbohydrates, notably the honey-dew secretions associated with the *Sphacelia* stage of *Claviceps* spp.

Four points arise from these supplementary data on the relationship between *Cerebella* and its hosts, namely, (1) the substitution of *Sphacelia* for *Cerebella* in host

indexes and a search made for the species of *Cinnamomea* involved in each case. (2) *Cordyceps* provides for the natural control of ergot by the inhibition of sclerotial development. (3) It serves as a reliable field indicator of the presence of ergot. (4) The history of ergot in a country may be traced through records of *Cordyceps* on grasses. The need for a revision of the genus is stressed.

ALBRECHT (H.). Effect of diseases upon survival of White Clover, *Trifolium repens* L., in Alabama.—*J. Amer. Soc. Agr.*, xxiv, 8, pp. 725-730, 3 figs., 1942.

In a study at the Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station and elsewhere in the State from 1940 to 1942 on the effect of diseases on the capacity of white clover (*Trifolium repens* L.) to survive the extreme heat of summer, southern blight (*Sclerotinia trifoliorum*) was found to be much the most destructive of the ten pathogens (including the nematode, *Heterodera trifolii* (H. & J.)), so far investigated, attacking 481 of the 750 lines under observation in 1940, and 202 out of 277 in 1942. Ladino and other varieties of similar root and stem habit being particularly susceptible. Other fungi causing heavy damage to the leaves were *Septoria trifolii* (H. & J. xxii, p. 22) and a species of *Cercospora*, while the other organisms present included *Podotherea* (*Dermatophyllum* or *Cercospora*) trifoliae (loc. cit.), *Botryosphaeria* sp., *Phytophthora* sp., *Bacillus* (*Erwinia*) lachrymans, *Cercospora* trifolii, and *Fusarium* sp. In many cases the plants were attacked simultaneously by more than one pathogen; of the 750 examined in 1940, for instance, 180 were infected by two, 275 by three, 282 by four, and 39 by five. A number of clover strains (88 in the case of *S. trifoliorum*) have given promise of resistance to the various diseases enumerated, most of which reached a climax of virulence after mid-June, when the main crop had attained maturity. The strands in over-grazed or sparsely vegetated pastures were much less subject to disease than those in sites of abundant growth.

BLASER (R. E.) & STOKES (W. E.). The chemical composition, growth, and certain deficiency symptoms of Carpet Grass, *Axonopus affinis*, as affected by lime and fertilizer mixtures.—*J. Amer. Soc. Agr.*, xxiv, 8, pp. 703-708, 2 figs., 1942.

The omission of phosphorus from the lime and fertilizer mixture applied to plots of carpet grass (*Axonopus affinis*) in the coastal plain of Florida led to the development of a dull green to purplish coloration of the plants. Burning of the blade tips was a feature of stands from which potassium was withheld.

CARLSON (J. W.). Seed of new wilt-resistant winter hardy Alfalfa to be increased for general distribution.—*F. H. & S., Utah*, 1, 4, pp. 1, 11, 1 fig., 1941.

The Utah Agricultural Experiment Station has entered into a co-operative agreement with the Utah Crop Improvement Association for the production of certified seed of high quality of various important field crops. As part of this programme the Utah Station, the Division of Forage Crops and Diseases of the United States Department of Agriculture, and the Wisconsin Agricultural Experiment Station are co-operating in a special effort to produce foundation stocks of lucerne possessing confirmed resistance to bacterial wilt (*Cercosporella lucerneae*; *R.A.M.*, xx, pp. 345, 585; xxii, p. 121), increased winter-hardiness, and other desirable qualities.

Small, well-isolated plots are established from a few ounces of seed obtained from highly improved plants grown under greenhouse conditions. The seed, treated with concentrated sulphuric acid, is planted in the greenhouse or cold frame, where the seedlings are maintained under optimum conditions until they are about six weeks old. The best isolation for small plots is in small towns, where little lucerne is grown; larger plots are isolated in dry regions where wheat is the major crop and much of the soil is still uncultivated. By these methods and careful insect control, the seed of the new strains has been increased from a few ounces in spring to as much as 50 lb. by the autumn. Trial plots are then set up with this seed in many States.

where the new strains are studied; those that pass these tests are recommended for trial in commercial plantings.

PETERSON (M. L.) & MELCHERS (L. E.). **Studies on black stem of Alfalfa caused by *Ascochyta imperfecta*.**—*Phytopathology*, xxxii, 7, pp. 590-597, 2 figs., 1 graph, 1942.

A number of different fungi having been implicated in the etiology of black stem of lucerne, studies were carried out on the origin of the disease as it occurs in Kansas, where the causal organism was identified as *Ascochyta imperfecta* [R.A.M., xxi, p. 336], the pycnospores of which on potato dextrose agar ranged from 6 to 15 by 2.5 to 4 μ , thus agreeing with the dimensions previously reported by Peek (*Bull. N.Y. St. Mus.* 157, 1912) and by Toohey *et al.* from England [R.A.M., xvi, p. 258]. The pathogen, which probably overwinters in the form of dormant mycelium and pyenidia in the crop refuse, induces destructive defoliation and discoloration of the hay crop, especially under the cool, moist conditions prevailing at the time of the first cutting. In the field infection is disseminated by means of splashing raindrops, within which the spores are conveyed from the diseased tissues to the growing shoots. The optimum temperature for the growth of *A. imperfecta* in culture was 21° C., the minimum and maximum being 9° and 33°, respectively; pyenidial production took place from 9° to 30° and was most abundant at 27°. Spore suspensions from sterile sweet clover (*Melilotus*) stems were sprayed on to healthy Turkestan and Ladak lucerne leaves with positive results, the severity of the resultant lesions being independent of the age of the plants. *Medicago falcata* and *M. ruthenica* were added to the list of hosts of *A. imperfecta*.

MEIER (K.). **Über Gelbsucht an Obstbäumen, Reben und Gartenpflanzen.** [On chlorosis of fruit trees, vines, and horticultural plants.]—*Schweiz. Z. Obst.- u. Weinb.*, li, 18, pp. 357-361, 1942.

The complex of adverse environmental factors inducing chlorosis of fruit trees, vines, and horticultural plants, many specimens of which are submitted to the Wädenswil Experiment Station for advice, are discussed under various headings, including soil deficiencies, especially of nitrogen and potash, unfavourable physical structure of the soil associated with waterlogging, defective aeration, and other factors, and unduly low winter and spring temperatures.

BURRELL (A. B.) & CAIN (J. C.). **A response of Apple trees to potash in the Champlain Valley of New York.**—*Proc. Amer. Soc. hort. Sci.*, xxxviii, pp. 1-7, 1941.

BURRELL (A. B.), CAIN (J. C.), & BRINKERHOFF (L. A.). **Response of Apple trees to potash in the Champlain Valley. II. A third-year growth response and a first-year reduction in leaf scorch.**—*ibid.*, xl, pp. 8-12, 1942.

For 14 years leaf scorch [R.A.M., xx, p. 478] and an unthrifty condition of trees resembling potassium deficiency has been observed in certain apple orchards in the Champlain Valley, New York State. Yearly applications of potassium to McIntosh apple trees gave the following results. In the first experiment commenced in 1939 on nine-year-old trees growing in rather infertile soil, applications of either 3 lb. sulphate of potash or 1½ lb. each of sulphate and muriate of potash per tree in a foot-wide trench round the tree induced no response in the first year, a conspicuous reduction of leaf scorch in the second, and merely a trace of the disorder as compared with 64 per cent. on the controls in the third, when the average growth per terminal was 11 as compared with 4 in., the average total terminal growth per tree 1,477 as compared with 494 in., and the potassium content of the leaves 1.76 per cent. as compared with 0.70. In a second experiment commenced in 1938 with seven-year-old trees grown in rather less infertile soil, soil applications of either 5 or 2 lb. muriate of

potash or 3 lb. sulphate of potash in either holes or bands about 2 ft. from the tree induced no response until the third year, when leaf scorch was entirely controlled, the potassium content of treated leaves being increased by more than 300 per cent over that of untreated. In a third experiment commenced in 1941, mostly with six-year-old trees grown in relatively fertile soil, applications of sulphate of potash at the rate of 3 lb., muriate of potash at that of 2 lb. 6 oz. per tree, or a 1 per cent. sulphate of potash spray caused a response to all treatments within two months. The spray treatment appeared to give more rapid control, but this superiority was not maintained throughout the summer. The reduction in leaf scorch 3½ months after treatment ranged from 33 to 49 as against 6 per cent. in the untreated trees; the potassium content of leaves was raised by soil applications to from four to six times that of the control, and by spraying to from two to three times. Although the spray treatment is effective, it may prove costly and possibly lead to foliage injury from reaction products with arsenicals or lime sulphur.

BATJER (L. P.) & HALLER (M. H.). **Fruit maturity and growth of Apple trees as affected by boron content. (Preliminary report.)** *Proc. Amer. Soc. hort. Sci.*, xl, pp. 29-30, 1942.

This is a preliminary report on experiments carried out during 1940 in which soil applications of borax (at the rate of ½ lb. to 8 year old and 1 lb. to 20 year old trees) were made three weeks prior to blossoming to Jonathan, Delicious, Rome Beauty, Grimes Golden, and York Imperial apple trees growing in soil relatively low in available boron, but showing no definite symptoms of boron deficiency. The results showed no measurable effect on the growth of the trees after two seasons. The boron content of leaves and fruits of the treated trees averaged 45 and 50 parts per million, respectively, as compared with 30 and 13 p.p.m. for the untreated controls. Generally speaking, the treated trees showed more pre-harvest drop (23 to 45 per cent. as compared with 6 to 12 in the control), developed colour earlier, and produced a greater amount of breakdown and less scald in storage than the untreated ones, indicating that the borax treatment had advanced maturity.

HEINICKE (A. J.), REUTHER (W.), & CAIN (J. C.). **Influence of boron application on preharvest drop of McIntosh Apples.** *Proc. Amer. Soc. hort. Sci.*, xl, pp. 31-34, 1942.

Soil applications of borax at the rate of ½ lb. per tree were given in 1940 to a 20-year-old block of 90 vigorous McIntosh apple trees in the Cornell University orchard at Ithaca, New York. The soil in this block had received unusually heavy nitrogen fertilization during the ten preceding years, but was low in available boron; the trees had suffered since 1934 from a heavier pre-harvest drop [cf. preceding abstract] than those in other parts of the orchard, the first definite symptoms of boron deficiency appearing in the spring of 1940. The applications resulted in 1941, when no external sign of boron deficiency was apparent, in a reduction in the pre-harvest drop (from 497 and 649 dropped fruits in two control trees to 62 and 99 in the treated trees) and in the drop through harvest (from 70 and 87 to 43 and 36 per cent. of the total yield) on trees which had previously exhibited severe external cork, but there was no definite effect in those free from cork. Analyses of the leaf tissue showed that the borax treatment reduced the drop even though there was not always an accompanying increase in the boron content of the leaf. The results of these experiments are taken to indicate that an excessive pre-harvest drop of fruit may be associated with incipient stages of boron deficiency which may not be severe enough to cause cork or drought spot.

CHRISTOPHER (E. P.). **A comparison of lime sulphur and flotation sulphur spray on Apple trees.**—*Proc. Amer. Soc. hort. Sci.*, xl, pp. 63-67, 2 figs., 1942.

Comparative tests of lime-sulphur (1 in 50) and a flotation sulphur paste (10 lb. to 100 gals.) sprays on both mature and young McIntosh, Rhode Island Greening, and Baldwin apple trees, conducted at the Rhode Island Agricultural Experiment Station since 1936, showed that of the two materials lime-sulphur caused the greater reduction in carbon dioxide assimilation in the leaves (35 as compared with 18 per cent.) and the more severe leaf damage (15.74 and 25.99 per cent. of the leaf area injured as compared with 8.72 and 3.68), permitted less tree growth (1.87 and 1.93 in. trunk diameter as compared with 2.07 and 2.19), gave the smaller yields (mean total for six years of 78.0 and 29.4 bush. as compared with 116.5 and 66.2), and the smaller accumulations of starch in stored apples (13 per cent. of the pith area filled with starch grains as compared with 32). It is concluded that on account of its superiority flotation sulphur should be used instead of lime-sulphur.

HILDEBRAND (E. M.) & HOUGH (L. F.). **Pollenicides as supplements for bactericides in blossom blight control.**—*Proc. Amer. Soc. hort. Sci.*, xl, pp. 91-94, 1942.

In continued studies on the pollenicidal action of certain bactericides on apple trees [R.A.M., xix, p. 658], elgetol and a new material, nitrokleenup powder, were both found in the laboratory to inhibit all pollen germination on agar at a dilution of 0.0001, whereas at dilutions as strong as 0.02 they were still only weakly bactericidal. In orchard trials spraying 10-year-old Rhode Island Greening apple trees with a 0.1 per cent. concentration of nitrokleenup, applied thoroughly with a knapsack sprayer at the time of pollination or 24 hours after, resulted in 20.2 and 15.5 per cent. of set fruits, respectively, as against 42.6 per cent. in the unsprayed trees, or 38.4 and 31.1 in the trees sprayed 48 and 72 hours after pollination, respectively. The only injury caused by spraying with this material consisted in a slight crinkling of the leaves. In the light of published and unpublished data on elgetol and the authors' own field work [the results of which were rendered inconclusive by frost], it is considered that this material is even more promising for fruit thinning, which, it is suggested, might help to control the blossom-blight phase of fire blight (*Erwinia amylovora*) by removing the late-opening blossoms. Further studies are in progress.

ALLEN (F. W.). **Carbon dioxide storage for Yellow Newtown Apples.**—*Proc. Amer. Soc. hort. Sci.*, xl, pp. 193-200, 1942.

In extensive commercial trials from 1938 to 1940 Yellow Newtown apples stored at 42° F. in a 6 per cent. concentration of carbon dioxide developed no internal browning (as compared with an average of 48 per cent. in air storage at 36°), and only a slight amount of incipient scald [R.A.M., xxi, p. 82] in 4 out of 12 lots of unwrapped fruit. It is suggested that the absence of internal browning in carbon dioxide storage is due indirectly to the gas, which permits the use of temperatures above those employed in air storage, that is, temperatures above 40°, at and above which this disorder no longer occurs. Pre-storing for 15 days at 40° in relatively high concentrations of carbon dioxide appeared to be without effect on the subsequent development of internal browning in air storage at 32° or 36°, although it was materially more severe at the lower temperature.

SINGH (U. B.). **Stem-brown disease of Apple in Kumaun.**—*Indian J. agric. Sci.*, xii, 2, pp. 368-380, 5 pl., 1942.

The fungus responsible for the stem-brown disease of apples, first observed in India at the Government Orchard, Chaubattia, Kumaun, United Provinces, in August, 1934, was identified by S. F. Ashby as *Botryosphaeria ribis*, infection by which usually originates on the pruned surfaces of twigs and stems and proceeds

downwards, causing a type of die-back [cf. *R.A.M.*, xvii, p. 755], the upper limbs being chiefly involved. The bark becomes loose and rolls outwards, turning brown and assuming a papery consistency, and the decorticated wood shows a dark brown discoloration with horizontal and longitudinal fissures. *B. ribis* is often found in association with *Coniothecium chomatosporum* [ibid., xx, p. 290] in the cankered areas. The symptoms of stem-brown are usually noticeable by the fourth week of April and reach a climax in the middle of May. Perithecia are rarely observed in nature. Detailed descriptions of all stages of the fungus are given.

After a month's immersion in snow diseased apple twigs bearing pycnidia, on examination in March, showed the presence of perithecia, the role of which in the spread of the pathogen has not been determined. It is clear, however, that overwintered material of this description is likely to provide a fresh source of inoculum for the coming season. Wounded and uninjured Esopus Spitzenberg twigs reacted to inoculation with the fungus by the development of typical bark symptoms and the production of B-type pycnidia, perithecia developing in the following year. The progress of infection was uniformly very slow. Cross-inoculation experiments with a mono-pycnospore isolation on cut pear, peach, apricot, and chestnut twigs [ibid., iii, p. 725] gave positive results.

The principal sources of the fresh infections occurring in nature from May to July are the pycnidia and, to a lesser extent, water-borne ascospores. Effective control may be secured by the application to the pruned stem surfaces of a paste consisting of equal amounts of red lead and copper carbonate in lanoline, the last-named being preferable for the purpose in view to the raw linseed oil used by Dey and Singh with the same fungicidal mixture against *C. chomatosporum* [ibid., xx, p. 290].

ENGLISH (W. H.). Taxonomic and pathogenicity studies of the fungi which cause decay of Pears in Washington.—*Res. Stud. St. Coll. Wash.*, viii, 3, pp. 127-128, 1940. [Received September, 1942.]

In addition to the fungi already reported for the first time as agents of pear decay in N. America [*R.A.M.*, xx, p. 347], the authors here enumerate *Alternaria mali*, *Aspergillus flavus*, undetermined species of *Cephalosporium*, *Gloeosporium*, *Helminthosporium*, *Hendersonia*, *Pullularia*, and *Stemphylium*, *Hormodendrum cladosporioides*, *Neofabraea malicorticis*, *Penicillium chrysitidis*, *P. cyclopium*, *P. puberulum*, *P. (?) roquefortii*, *P. terrestris*, *Phoma exigua* [ibid., xviii, p. 316], *Phomopsis* [*Diaporthe*] *ambigua* [ibid., xvi, p. 105], *Pleospora fructicola*, and *Sporotrichum malorum* [ibid., xx, p. 476] as new records for the same continent, while other fungi isolated from pears in Washington included *Cephalothecium* [*Trichothecium*] *roseum*, *Sclerotinia fructicola*, *Mucor piriformis*, *Phoma mali* [ibid., xvii, p. 466], and *Phytophthora cactorum*. At laboratory temperature the most actively parasitic isolates, in decreasing order of the rate of decay, were *Rhizopus nigricans*, *P. cactorum*, *S. fructicola*, *Botrytis cinerea*, a sterile fungus, *M. piriformis*, *D. ambigua*, *Alternaria mali* strain 4, *Aspergillus pyri*, *Helminthosporium* sp., *Penicillium expansum*, and *P. terrestris*. Common storage temperatures (40° to 54° F.) inhibited the parasitism of all but one of the isolates, while under cold storage conditions (32° to 35°) *Phytophthora cactorum*, *R. nigricans*, *A. spp.*, *H. sp.*, *Penicillium tardum*, *Stemphylium* No. 2, and a sterile fungus, proved incapable of causing decay, though *M. piriformis*, *Phoma mali*, *B. cinerea*, and *P. expansum* were comparatively active.

HUBER (G. A.) & BAUR (K.). Apothecia of Sclerotinia fructicola on Peach in Western Washington.—*Phytopathology*, xxxii, 7, pp. 635-636, 1 fig., 1942.

Sclerotinia fructicola, which causes considerable fruit decay of peach in Western Washington during the harvest period, may overwinter in mummies attached to trees and produce a fresh crop of moniliospores in the following spring [*R.A.M.*, xxi, p. 27]. On 26th March, 1941, apothecia were observed for the first time developing

from peach mummies below a single tree in an orchard in Clark County, the cultural characters of isolates from which resembled those of strains of *S. fructicola* from Italian prune mummies. Both prunes and peaches reacted positively to inoculation with pure cultures of the organism.

ENGLISH (H.) & GERHARDT (F.). **Effect of carbon dioxide and temperature on the decay of Sweet Cherries under simulated transit conditions.**—*Proc. Amer. Soc. hort. Sci.*, xl, pp. 172-176, 1 graph, 1942.

Sweet cherries (variety Bing) inoculated with water suspensions of cultures of the brown rot fungus *Sclerotinia fructicola* [R.A.M., xxi, p. 27] and of the blue mould fungus *Penicillium expansum* were stored in the summer of 1941 in atmospheres of carbon dioxide at concentrations of 5, 10, or 20 per cent. and at varying temperatures for either five or nine days, and examined either immediately after removal from storage or after two additional days in air at 65° F. Fruits kept at 31° in air without the addition of carbon dioxide developed no decay after either period of storage, indicating the possibility of controlling decay of cherries in refrigerator cars without using carbon dioxide by maintaining this temperature. At a storage temperature of 36°, no decay by either fungus developed either in air storage or in carbon dioxide after five days, nor was any *S. fructicola* present in any of the lots after nine; the 59 per cent. decay by *P. expansum* that developed in air storage after nine days at that temperature was reduced to 6.5 per cent. by 5 per cent. carbon dioxide and completely controlled by 10 per cent. At a storage temperature of 45°, *S. fructicola* was entirely absent from all lots after five days, and although present in air storage (40.2 per cent. decay) after nine, was completely controlled by the 20 per cent. concentration of the gas; *P. expansum*, present in air storage (72 per cent. decay) after five days was controlled by a 10 per cent. concentration of carbon dioxide, but after nine days the highest concentration of the gas reduced the amount of decay (to 4.1 from 85.6 per cent. in air storage) without completely controlling it. All lots examined after two additional days in the air at 65° were infected, although those kept in carbon dioxide developed less decay than those stored in air at the same temperature. Data for uninoculated cherries stored under the same conditions showed no significant amount of decay in any of the lots after five days, or even when examined after two additional days in the air at 65°; stored for nine days and examined after two additional days in the air, the lots held in air had two to three times as much decay as those in 20 per cent. carbon dioxide at either 36° or 45°. The fungi isolated from the lesions on these cherries, in descending order of incidence, were *Botrytis* sp., *Cladosporium* sp., *Pullularia* sp., *Hormodendrum* sp., *Stemphylium* sp., *Penicillium* sp., and *Mucor* sp. It is concluded from the results of these studies that brown rot and other kinds of decay can be effectively controlled by carbon dioxide at concentrations within the range used in commercial shipping. This conclusion is also supported by records taken of unspecified decay in cherries developing during transit and by data supplied by shippers of cherries from California.

ZELLER (S. M.) & MILBRATH (J. A.). **Banded chlorosis, a transmissible disease of Cherry.**—*Phytopathology*, xxxii, 7, pp. 634-635, 1 fig., 1942.

Japanese cherries (*Prunus serrulata*) of the Amanogawa, Okochin, and Temari varieties in Oregon were observed in 1940 to be affected by a disease termed 'banded chlorosis' (*Marmor pallidolimbatus* or *Prunus* virus 10), the outstanding feature of which was the development on the leaf surface of discoloured areas surrounded by a chlorotic band, 1 to 2 mm. broad, sometimes describing a circle and forming ring spots, singly or in chains, usually between two lateral pinnate veins or along the margin, while in other cases more or less perfect 'oak leaf' patterns extend from the midvein to points on the lateral ones, or, again, only a sector between the margin and the midrib may be involved. The chlorotic areas are whitish or yellowish, sometimes

becoming pinkish. Amanogawa trees of 16 years old or more also suffered from a die-back of the twigs, which may not, however, be directly caused by the virus. Numerous cases of bud perpetuation of the disease were observed in nurseries, and the disorder was successfully transmitted by means of Amanogawa buds to nine out of ten healthy mazzard seedlings.

PLAKIDAS (A. G.). Spray tests for the control of Strawberry leaf spot caused by *Mycosphaerella fragariae*.—*Rep. La Fruit Exp. Sta.*, 1939-40, pp. 25-28, 1941. [Abs. in *Chem. Abstr.*, xxxvi, 13, p. 3898, 1942.]

Excellent control of strawberry leaf spot (*Mycosphaerella fragariae*) was secured at Hammond, Louisiana, by spraying with standard Bordeaux 4-4-50 or 'spraycrop' (containing 34 per cent. copper and no free lime). Slight foliar injury resulted from the use of Bordeaux mixture, whereas 'spraycrop' caused no damage.

BERKELEY (G. H.) & PLAKIDAS (A. G.). Strawberry leaf roll, a new disease.—*Phytopathology*, xxxii, 7, pp. 631-633, 1 fig., 1942.

In June, 1938, at St. Catharines, Ontario, and in September, 1940, at Geneva, New York, strawberry plants (Premier variety in the former and U.S.D.A. No. 1631 and Geneva No. 9270 seedlings in the latter locality) were observed to present a delicate appearance and to be affected by a downward rolling of the leaflets, which in extreme cases assumed the form of a funnel-shaped tube. The leaves of the diseased plants were pale green, smaller and narrower than the normal, the petioles being unusually long and spindly. The leaf blades were ruffled, rugose, and bore irregular, chlorotic areas of variable size. Grafting experiments with runners were successful in a few cases, including one involving the transmission of the pathological conditions to a clone of *Fragaria virginiana* and its two daughter plants. The disorder, termed leaf roll, is attributed to a hitherto unrecorded virus.

SNELL (W. H.). The production of sporidia of *Cronartium ribicola* on cultivated Red Currants in relation to infection of White Pine.—*Amer. J. Bot.*, xxix, 7, pp. 506-513, 1942.

Considerable data upon the number of leaves, total leaf area, and number of teleutosori and sporidia of *Cronartium ribicola* per bush for cultivated red currants, cultivated European black currants, and wild gooseberries (*Ribes cynosbati* and *R. rotundifolium*) [R.A.M., xxi, p. 29] showed that even under maximum infection conditions, a garden row of red currants produces only a fraction of the number of sporidia produced by wild gooseberries and an even smaller fraction of the number produced by black currants. Factors reducing the total sporidium production on red currants are (1) the small number of bushes that become infected, (2) the high resistance of mature leaves, (3) the tendency to produce a single set of leaves in a season, (4) the lowered viability of the teleutospores and sporidia produced, (5) early defoliation, (6) necrosis of blister-rust spots, and (7) the reduced size of the teleutosori.

By the use of the 'threshold' or 'quantum' principle (which derives a certain theoretical volume of sporidia for the production of a single canker on pine) it is demonstrated that the maximum sporidium production by red currants in New York State is close to or even under the lowest limits necessary for the infection of pine.

The results indicate that red currants offer little if any danger of infection by *C. ribicola* to white pine; the necessity of applying the 900 ft. eradication zone to them in gardens [loc. cit.] remains to be proved.

WARDLAW (C. W.). Banana research at the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture, B.W.I.—*J. R. Soc. Arts*, xc, 4621, pp. 644-653, 1942.

In this address to the Royal Society of Arts, London, delivered on 4th February,

1942, the author briefly reviews in popular terms research work carried out in Trinidad since 1928 on Panama disease of bananas (*Fusarium oxysporum* [var.] *cubense*) [*R.A.M.*, xxi, pp. 241, 340], with special reference to breeding for resistance and to storage investigations. He states that the hybrid I.C. 2, after showing a degree of resistance almost amounting to immunity over a number of years at the Imperial College, suddenly, when transplanted to two other localities in Trinidad, manifested complete susceptibility. Planting material of this hybrid sent to Jamaica also proved subject to infection. No reason appears to have been adduced for this behaviour, but it is thought that bud mutation may possibly be involved.

Report on the Department of Agriculture, St. Lucia, 1941.—12 pp., 1942.

On p. 10 of this report it is mentioned that the incidence of Panama disease of bananas (*Fusarium* [*oxysporum* var.] *cubense*) revealed by the 1941 survey amounted to 5.41 per cent., an increase of 1.40 per cent. over the previous year (cf. *R.A.M.*, xix, p. 717), the percentages of infected plants in gardens under and over three years old being 2.98 and 5.95 per cent., respectively.

PONTIS (R. E.) & HANSEN (H. N.). Olive anthracnose in the United States.—*Phytopathology*, xxxii, 7, pp. 642–644, 1 fig., 1942.

Mission olive fruits at the University of California, Berkeley, were observed in December, 1941, to bear the typical brown, irregular, depressed lesions, later turning brick-red or black, of the anthracnose fungus, *Gloeosporium olivarum* [*R.A.M.*, xxi, p. 403]. In Portugal and Greece [*ibid.*, xiii, p. 789] the disease is responsible for considerable damage, and there are indications that it may also assume a severe form in California. The organism exhibited the so-called 'dual phenomenon' [*ibid.*, xvii, p. 830] in monospore cultures on potato dextrose agar, one type producing an abundance of mycelium and few conidia, while in the other the position was reversed. Both mycelial and conidial types of the fungus were about equally pathogenic to injured olive fruits, the symptoms appearing after 36 hours and acervuli developing a week later. This is believed to be the first record of *G. olivarum* in the United States.

CHACE (W. G.) & URLAUB (G. S.). A new culture medium for the growth of *Chaetomium globosum*.—*Amer. Dyest. Repr.*, xxxi, 14, pp. 331–333, 3 figs., 1942.

The following cellulose agar medium was found at the Lowell Textile Institute to be superior to Czapek's agar for the development of *Chaetomium globosum*, large quantities of the spores of which are required for the testing of mildew-proofed fabrics [*R.A.M.*, xxi, p. 288]: 1,000 ml. water (tap or distilled with a trace of ferric sulphate), 3 gm. sodium nitrate, 1 gm. potassium dihydrogen phosphate (buffering the substratum at P_H 5.0), 25 gm. magnesium sulphate, 0.25 gm. potassium chloride, 15 gm. agar, and 10 gm. filter paper. The use of this medium reduces the time needed for sporulation to four or five days, permits the production of spore quantities many times exceeding those obtainable on Czapek's agar, and virtually eliminates the common air-borne contaminants.

HERRICK (J. A.). A simple technique for aseptic handling of media.—*Phytopathology*, xxxii, 7, pp. 636–637, 1942.

The technique successfully developed by the writer at the Kent (Ohio) State University for the aseptic manipulation of liquid culture media consists essentially in the use of a transfer chamber 20 by 30 by 30 in., the walls and ceiling of which are formed by pieces of cheese-cloth soaked in 3 per cent. lysol solution. When all sterilized equipment, media, etc., have been placed in the chamber, the air is thoroughly sprayed with a disinfectant solution, and other precautions [which are indicated] taken for the exclusion of external contamination. The technique may be of value where equipment is very limited or more elaborate apparatus impracticable to use.

HANSEN (H. N.). **Heterocaryosis and variability.**—*Phytopathology*, xxxii, 7, pp. 639–640, 1942.

Having observed that several mycologists are under a misapprehension as to the relationship between heterocaryosis and variability in fungi [*R.A.M.*, xvii, p. 830], the writer briefly discusses the nature and origin of heterocaryosis and its connexion with the development of mutants. He points out that the term heterocaryosis precisely describes the condition of a cell containing two or more genetically different nuclei. This condition is induced either by mutation within a plurinucleate entity or by fusion or anastomosis between cells having genetically unlike nuclei. When fungi in the heterocaryotic condition are isolated and cultured they may give the impression of great variability by producing tufts, patches, or sectors differing from the main growth. Heterocaryosis may therefore appear to induce variability, but in reality the basic cause of variability and the primary cause of heterocaryosis is mutation.

HASELHOFF (E.). **Die landwirtschaftlichen Versuchsstationen als Werkstätten der agrikulturchemischen Forschung.** [The agricultural experiment stations as laboratories of agricultural-chemical research.]—107 pp., Berlin, Gebr. Bornträger, 1941. [Abs. in *Z. PflKrankh.*, lli, 6, pp. 316–317, 1942.]

This account of the functions of the German agricultural experiment stations, dealing primarily with their work in connexion with soil science and plant and animal nutrition, contains a short chapter on plant diseases. Before 1906, when the plant protection service was reorganized by the Biological Institute, phytopathological problems were investigated by the experiment stations, and since that date some of the stations have continued to co-operate with the Biological Institute along both scientific and practical lines. Uniformity in the organization and procedure of the plant protection service was only attained under the provisions of the law of 5th March, 1937 [*R.A.M.*, xvi, p. 640], governing the care of economic plants.

OCFEMIA (G. O.). **Geographical distribution of virus diseases of plants with special reference to the Philippines.**—*Proc. sixth Pacif. Sci. Congr.*, iv, pp. 745–748, 1939 (1940). [Abs. in *Biol. Abstr.*, xvi, 6, p. 1456, 1942.]

The author discusses the geographical distribution and the transmission of Fiji disease and mosaic of sugar-cane, the bunchy top diseases of banana and abacá [*Musa textilis*], and infectious chlorosis of bananas, which may be identical with the abacá bunchy top. Sugar-cane sereh disease and streak and rice stunt have not yet been found in the Philippines.

VALLEAU (W. D.). **Virus nomenclature and classification.**—*Chron. bot.*, vii, 4, pp. 152–154, 1942.

The author opposes Bawden's suggestion (*Chron. bot.*, vi, pp. 385–386) to adopt a catalogue of approved names of viruses and any attempt at a preliminary general scheme of virus classification [*R.A.M.*, xxi, p. 343]. He proposes that as soon as viruses affecting certain groups of plants have been sufficiently studied to demonstrate their relationships to one another and to some of the well-known viruses, they be assigned binomials which would either place them in recognized genera, or, if evidence warranted, in newly established ones; for those not sufficiently studied, the generic name *Marmor* might be used.

MACRAE (RUTH). **Interfertility studies and inheritance of luminosity in *Panus stypticus*.**—*Canad. J. Res.*, Sect. C, xx, 8, pp. 411–434, 21 figs., 1 diag., 1942.

All five collections of *Panus stypticus* [*R.A.M.*, xiv, p. 270] from Europe examined in this study were found to be non-luminous, while all ten from North America were luminous. Series of pairings in all possible combinations of monosporous mycelia

from single sporophores showed that both forms of the fungus are heterothallic and tetrapolar. With three exceptions, complete fertility existed between monosporous mycelia of all the collections paired. The diploid mycelium and hybrid fruit bodies in the F_1 generation from a cross between the luminous and non-luminous forms were luminous and the haploid mycelia separable into two approximately equal luminous and non-luminous groups, indicating that luminosity in this species is an inherited character governed by a single pair of Mendelian factors, luminosity being dominant over non-luminosity, and that luminosity factors form all possible combinations with the interfertility factors.

DUFRENOY (J.) & REED (H. S.). **Coacervates in physical and biological systems.**—*Phytopathology*, xxxii, 7, pp. 568-579, 6 figs., 1942.

In further studies at the University of California, Berkeley, on the vacuolar inclusions found in the cells of plants suffering from various pathological conditions, e.g., mottle leaf (zinc deficiency) in orange [*R.A.M.*, xiv, p. 628] and zinc and boron deficiency in sunflower [*ibid.*, xix, p. 727], attention was directed to the roots and buds as well as to the foliage. 'Coacervates', the term propounded by De Jong and Kruyt to describe the bodies rich in colloids immersed in a liquid relatively poorer in colloids, were observed in the vacuoles of all the organs examined in the case of plants grown in solutions lacking one or more of the essential supplementary trace elements. The morphology, distribution, and staining reactions of the coacervates are fully described. The inclusions appear to consist of a central mass of phenols or polyphenols surrounded by a layer of phospholipoid material, formed as a sequel to the disturbance of hydrogen bonds in the catechol-water system by the activity of a catechol oxidase.

HANSEN (H. P.). **Om Nomenklatur for Plantevira samt nogle Synonymer for Kartoffelvira og Kartoffelviroser.** [Nomenclature of plant viruses and synonyms of Potato viruses and Potato virus diseases].—*Tidsskr. Planteavl*, xlvi, pp. 363-373, 1941. [Abs. in *Chron. bot.*, vii, 4, pp. 172-173, 1942; and in *Biol. Abstr.*, xvi, 7, p. 1654, 1942.]

In this paper synonyms for the European potato viruses are listed and Danish names given for potato virus diseases arranged according to symptoms [*R.A.M.*, xvii, p. 338].

CALDWELL (J.). **The production of virus-free Potatoes in the south-west of England.**—*Ann. appl. Biol.*, xxix, 3, pp. 265-267, 1942.

A preliminary survey in the autumn of 1936 showed that in isolated parts of Cornwall and Devon potatoes had been grown from seed saved on the same farm for many years. Many of the stocks were comparatively free from virus diseases, comparing favourably in this respect with crops from imported seed. It was apparent that certain localities in both counties were very suitable for the production of clean stocks of potatoes. Also, crops from local seed matured earlier than similar crops from Scots or Lincolnshire seed. Much of the area also conforms to the requirements for districts with low aphis counts; the climate is humid, and the wind velocity high.

Twelve places were selected for experiment, spread over the whole peninsula and conforming with the requirements for high wind and high humidity. The growers participating in the work were asked to grow the stocks provided for at least two years, at as great a distance as possible from other potatoes. The stocks selected were Sharpe's Express, Arran Pilot, May Queen, Duke of York, Dargill Early, and Arran Consul. Except for Dargill Early, a sample of each was grown at Exeter under controlled conditions to keep a check on the growth made. One lot of each of two varieties was sent to every grower before the end of 1936. In the spring of 1937, the author examined the plants and a few doubtful ones were removed and burnt. The entire crop was stored, the growers taking care that no aphids were present during

storage. During 1938 all the centres were visited by official inspectors and the health of the plants was carefully observed. At Exeter a comparison was made between the time of maturity of a crop from Devon-grown seed and one from imported Scots seed. An interval of about three weeks elapsed between the ripening of the two stocks, the plants from the seed grown locally being consistently ahead of those from the Scots-grown seed. One stock which became badly infected with virus disease was probably infected by aphids present in the store, and this may be an important factor in the spread of viruses in this area.

The evidence obtained showed clearly that large quantities of seed potatoes could readily be produced on Dartmoor, Bodmin Moor, and parts of Exmoor. In many other areas the conditions are also satisfactory, and a great part of west Devon and Cornwall would be suitable. In many areas this industry would provide a profitable use for land that is not at present successfully cultivated. Two precautions should, however, be taken: varieties must be grown in isolation, and the custom of permitting workers to grow a few rows of their own seed in the middle of a crop should cease.

BONDE (R.). Ring rot in volunteer plants.—*Amer. Potato J.* xix, 7, pp. 131-133, 1942.

Experimental evidence has been accumulated in Maine since 1934 to show that the causal organism of potato ring rot [*Corynebacterium sepedonicum*] does not survive the winter in the soil of fields carrying severely diseased crops in the previous season. It was, however, found to persist through the winter of 1940-1 in Katahdin tubers kept in trenches about 6 in. below the surface of the soil and covered to surface-level, part of each lot being further protected against cold with a shallow layer of weeds and potato tops. The incidence of survival of *C. sepedonicum* in the plants developing from the 65 to 82 per cent. of the tubers that withstood the winter ranged from 42 to 57 per cent., the higher figure occurring in the portion of a lot receiving no additional protection. Growers are therefore advised to plant their seed plots on fresh sites, and to make sure that any volunteer potato plants are destroyed.

HASTINGS (R. C.). New developments on certifying seed Potatoes.—*Amer. Potato J.*, xix, 7, pp. 149-152, 1942.

Potato ring rot [*Corynebacterium sepedonicum*] is stated to have multiplied the problems of seed certification [*R.A.M.*, xxi, p. 263], necessitating further field inspections in addition to the two normally required, with a consequent increase in cost to be borne ultimately by the growers. During the past season, one or more diseased plants were found in 5,000 of the 37,000 acres surveyed in North Dakota, and six or eight carloads were rejected in the south on account of ring rot.

LEVITT (J.). A histological study of hollow heart of Potatoes.—*Amer. Potato J.*, xix, 7, pp. 134-143, 1942.

In a study at the North-Central (Grand Rapids) branch of the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station on hollow heart of potatoes [*R.A.M.*, xix, p. 645 and next abstract], 2,818 Irish Cobbler tubers planted on 15th May, [? 1941] were examined at successive harvests between 24th July and 17th September, and 65 were found to be suffering from the disorder, the incidence of which was four times as heavy in the first as in the last crop, contradicting the popular belief that the trouble does not originate until late in the growing season. Fully developed hollows (up to or exceeding 10 by 20 mm.) were ordinarily observed only in large tubers and the incipient stages of the disease (necrotic patch surrounded by wound cambium or hollows up to 5 by 10 mm.) in small ones.

The first sign of hollow heart was a group of several dead, brown cells in the pith, some still occupied by starch grains. Surrounding the dead cells were several rows practically devoid of starch, in which some cell division had already taken place. At a later stage, the group of dead cells was partially or completely encircled by a

cambium layer of several rows. The next phase was characterized by the formation of a small cavity, almost entirely surrounded by a row of dead, brown, collapsed cells of unrecognizable structure, ruptured in places, and in turn encircled by several rows of living cambium cells and an outer radius of relatively starch-free cells. With the further advance of the disease the cavity became larger and somewhat more elongated in the short axis of the tuber, but even at this stage the wound cambium cells were disposed in distinct radial columns, showing that only periclinal divisions were involved. Neither the dead cell layer nor the wound cambium layer completely encircled the cavity, into which, however, some elongated or spherical cells protruded, and when the hollow had attained its full size almost the whole surface was lined with living tylosis-like cells, which were sausage- or flask-shaped or spherical and frequently larger than the adjacent tissue cells. In the mature tubers the middle lamella of the cells surrounding the wound was suberized, judging by its reaction to Sudan III stain, yet the cells were still living, according to their response to vital staining with neutral red, plasmolysis, and streaming movement.

These observations show that the hollow-heart cavity is not of lysigenous origin, since no cell disintegration or absorption occurs, nor is it the simple type of schizogenous hollow arising from the separation of living cells at the middle lamella and resulting in a giant intercellular space. Its formation is preceded by the death of a patch of cells and the development round them of a wound cambium.

The rough correlation between tuber size and the dimensions of the hollow cavity agrees with the assumption that hollow heart is a growth phenomenon, both the extent and shape of which are explicable by a non-uniform development of the tuber outside the necrotic region, so that the periphery expands more rapidly than the centre. The supposition was confirmed by cell measurements on diseased Russets.

In view of certain analogies between the hollow-heart condition of potatoes and that of apples suffering from boron deficiency [*ibid.*, xix, p. 353], spectrographic analyses were made of six mineral constituents (potash, copper, magnesium, iron, manganese, and calcium) in diseased (average weight 145 gm.) and sound tubers (118 gm.), and all were found to occur in significantly smaller quantities in the former than in the latter.

CORDNER (H. B.). A study of problems relating to production of fall-crop Irish Potatoes in Oklahoma.—*Bull. Okla. agric. Exp. Sta.* B—258, 59 pp., 4 figs., 11 graphs, 1942.

A detailed, fully tabulated report is given of investigations which have been in progress at the Oklahoma Agricultural Experiment Station since 1937 to determine the causes of failure of the autumn potato crop obtained from spring crop tubers planted in July and August. The following are among the conclusions drawn. High soil temperatures, e.g., between 90° and 95° F., were found to be responsible for severe damage to potato seed, a mean of 90° at planting time resulting in a substantial reduction of stand. This form of high temperature breakdown presents analogies with black heart [*R.A.M.*, xxi, p. 302], the condition in both cases arising from physiological sources and being associated with a high respiratory rate and oxygen deficiency in the tuber tissues. The use of freshly cut seed pieces at the critical period for high soil temperatures was found to afford valuable protection against the trouble under observation, possibly by permitting an increased supply of oxygen to the interior tissues, at any rate for the first week or two after planting when the demand is greatest. At this time, too, sprouting may be initiated, and the sprouted seed is less subject to high-temperature breakdown; cut sets sprout more promptly than whole tubers—an additional reason for their use under the conditions indicated. Storage of the spring crop seed tubers at 50° was found to be inferior to a temperature of 75° to 80° for this purpose, the chilled sets sprouting less rapidly in the field than those stimulated by the warmth.

THIRUMALACHAR (M. J.). *Puccinia droogensis* Butler on *Berberis aristata* D.C.—*Curr. Sci.*, xi, 7, pp. 282-283, 7 figs., 1942.

A description is given of *Puccinia droogensis* Butl. (*Indian For.*, xxxi, p. 670, 1905) collected on *Berberis aristata* at Kodaikanal, Madras, in 1940. The single distinct germ pore in each teleutospore of the rust clearly differentiates it from the species of *Cumminsia* recorded on other *B.* spp. by Arthur [*R.A.M.*, xiii, p. 185]. *P. droogensis* is autoecious, and its aecidial stage differs from that of *Aecidium montanum* Butl. on *B. aristata*, *B. lycium*, and *B. coriaria* both in the absence of the witches' brooms produced by the latter rust and in spore dimensions (17 to 35 by 17 to 29 μ , average 19 by 23 μ in *A. montanum* as against 18 to 22 by 16.4 to 18 μ in *P. droogensis*).

BISBY (G. R.). **Mycological nomenclature.**—*Phytopathology*, xxxii, 7, pp. 644-645, 1942.

The author proposes two changes involving Articles 4 and 57 in the International Rules of Botanical Nomenclature, viz., (1) the legalization of the conservation of specific names which have become firmly established in the literature through many years' extensive usage; and (2) the designation of Ascomycetes and Basidiomycetes (not Phycomycetes) with pleomorphic life-cycles by the first valid binary name applied to the perfect stage, though the name of the imperfect stage may be retained in cases where ambiguity might arise from its discontinuance. In connexion with (1) it is pointed out that the specific epithets in the names *Tilletia tritici*, *T. levis*, *Ustilago levis*, and *Rhizopus nigricans*, though disallowed by the existing rules, will continue to be used, as also will about a score of pre-Friesian names of powdery mildews recognized by Salmon and all subsequent workers; while as regards (2) the retention of *Cladosporium herbarum* should be permitted, notwithstanding the discovery and verification of its perfect stage, *Sphaerella tulasnei*, at any rate in countries where only the former phase is known.

HENDERSON (R. G.). **Breeding Tobacco for black-root resistance.**—Abs. in *Phytopathology*, xxxii, 7, p. 647, 1942.

In the course of eight years' work on the breeding of tobacco for resistance to black root rot (*Thielaviopsis basicola*) in Virginia, crosses have been made between a resistant variety of Turkish (Xanthia) and susceptible flue- and dark fire-cured strains. The F_1 progeny resembled the Turkish parent in being resistant to the fungus and most other characters, and selections from the F_2 and F_3 populations also proved highly resistant to *T. basicola*. In experiments on the back-crossing of the F_2 and later generations to the susceptible parent, a high level of resistance was maintained, especially from the F_3 onwards, but the leaves remained undesirably small, a second back-cross being required to produce full-sized foliage.

In 1941 several resistant hybrids of the flue-cured type were tested on soil infested with *T. basicola*, one of which, No. 38, combined resistance to black root rot with heavy cropping and a suitable growth habit. The growth of resistant hybrids proceeded at a uniform rate from their establishment in the field to the attainment of full height, whereas that of susceptible plants was retarded by root rot during the first two months of the vegetative period.

JOHNSON (J.) & FULTON (R. W.). **The broad ring-spot virus.**—*Phytopathology*, xxxii, 7, pp. 605-612, 2 figs., 1942.

A new virus observed in 1938 on some 30 per cent. of the plants in a tobacco crop nearing the topping stage in Wisconsin has been designated 'broad ring spot', inoculation with extracts of which on young Havana No. 38 plants produced on the leaves small, chlorotic rings, two or more such rings being often disposed concentrically, and puckering of the veins. The disease has not been observed in any

other field and not in the original field since 1938. It is therefore extremely rare. Systemic symptoms appear on two or three young leaves, the succeeding three or four of which may be apparently healthy and the next diseased. The infective principle was found to be present in the leaves showing no symptoms, which reacted negatively to inoculation with the broad ring-spot virus, but positively to the introduction of potato ring spot, ordinary tobacco ring spot, tobacco ring spot No. 2, or lucerne mosaic [R.A.M., xv, p. 831; xix, p. 668]. During the early autumn and late spring, when greenhouse temperatures rise, the chlorotic type of spotting is partially replaced by fine, brown, necrotic circles, which were also characteristic of the disease in the field. John Baer tomatoes inoculated with broad ring spot developed well-marked chlorosis and necrotic rings, the latter being rather broader than those on tobacco and following the course of the veins to a greater extent; the leaflets showed considerable distortion.

The new virus is readily transmissible by mechanical inoculation, especially with the aid of carborundum, but apparently not by *Myzus persicae*. Its thermal death point is 54°C., its maximum longevity *in vitro* 42 hours, and its dilution end-point just above 1 in 1,000. It does not appear to be filterable by ordinary methods. Forty-one named plants belonging to 16 families were successfully inoculated with the broad ring-spot virus. Most of these potential hosts developed a mild, vermiculate, chlorotic pattern, but on sunflower the virus produced chlorotic rings and on cucumber scattered, yellow spots, while the foliage of *N. glutinosa* and *N. sylvestris* was much distorted. Squash and potato were the only two plants on which infection remained localized.

HELSON (G. A. H.). The leaf hopper *Thamnotettix argentata* Evans, a vector of Tobacco yellow dwarf.—*J. Coun. sci. industr. Res. Aust.*, xv, 2, pp. 175-184, 1 fig., 3 graphs, 1942.

All attempts to breed *Thamnotettix argentata* [R.A.M., xx, p. 604], a vector of tobacco yellow dwarf, upon tobacco are stated to have failed. Many of the hosts on which the insect breeds are common weeds in tobacco fields or neighbouring pastures, and on these it produces three generations every year in northern Victoria.

Field observations in Victoria in 1940-1 showed that the insect bred on capeweed (*Cryptostemma calendulaceum*) and crowfoot (*Erodium* sp.) and increased considerably before the death of these weeds at the end of November. First-generation adults, which had then reached a peak of abundance and appeared to be carrying the virus, were forced on to the young tobacco crop for want of other food. Symptoms of the disease appeared about a fortnight later.

VALLEAU (W. D.), JOHNSON (E. M.), & DIACHUN (S.). Association of Tobacco leafspot bacteria with roots of crop plants.—*Science*, N.S., xcvi, 2485, p. 164, 1942.

The authors continued their investigations on tobacco wildfire (*Bacterium tabacum*) [*Pseudomonas tabaca*] and angular leaf spot (*Bact. angulatum*) [*P. angulata*], with particular reference to the source of inoculum in tobacco plant-beds [R.A.M., xxi, pp. 308, 431]. Roots of cover crops, including wheat, barley, rye, crimson clover [*Trifolium incarnatum*], and vetch from artificially contaminated soils out-of-doors and from fields where the diseases had been severe in 1941 were washed free from soil in running water, and ground in a mortar. When this material, diluted with water, was poured over the surface of artificially water-soaked tobacco leaves, severe infection frequently resulted. Tobacco roots from naturally infected beds also gave heavy infection when used in this way. *P. angulata* was also isolated from seedling tobacco roots before the disease appeared on the leaves in untreated beds, and from tobacco roots in beds treated with Bordeaux mixture. It is, therefore, not unlikely that both organisms may be carried from the plant-bed to the field on the roots of

healthy plants, and serve as a source of sudden outbreaks in the field after a long wet period.

Microscopic examination of tobacco rootlets from naturally infected plant-beds and artificially inoculated tobacco roots growing in sand showed the presence of masses of bacteria; pieces of roots bearing these colonies when used as inoculum produced heavy infection by either disease (depending on the source) on water-soaked tobacco leaves.

P. tabaca and *P. angulata* are able to maintain themselves on the roots of several unrelated crop plants for at least six months, and under certain natural conditions they are able to cause specific leaf spot diseases of several unrelated plants, such as tobacco, tomato, morning glory [? *Ipomoea* sp.], and cowpeas. In the opinion of the senior writer these bacteria are not primarily tobacco pathogens at all, but merely common (though specific) organisms present on roots, perhaps of native vegetation, and which under specially favourable circumstances cause specific leaf spots of tobacco.

LYON (C. B.), BEESON (K. C.), & BARRENTINE (M.). **Macro-element nutrition of the Tomato plant as correlated with fruitfulness and occurrence of blossom end rot.**—

Bot. Gaz., ciii, 4, pp. 651-667, 11 figs., 1942.

When 1,044 plants of an inbred strain of Bonny Best tomatoes were grown in sand culture, and the effects of 87 different nutrient solutions varying in the relative proportions of macro-nutrient elements (equal amounts of boron, manganese, zinc, copper, and iron being supplied in each case) were studied statistically in relation to fruitfulness and the occurrence of blossom-end rot, it was found that variations in the amount of calcium and nitrate in the nutrient medium resulted in greater differences in fruitfulness over wider ranges in concentration than did the other elements. The greatest fruitfulness resulted in treatments high in nitrate and low in sulphate and phosphate in the anion triangle (for convenience the nutrient relations are represented in cation and anion triangles and treatment numbers assigned to those solutions used) and in treatments high in calcium and low in magnesium and potassium in the cation triangle. The percentage of rotted fruits on each plant increased as the calcium concentration of the medium decreased; this correlation was largely independent of the magnesium and potassium concentrations, and no correlation with any anion was found. Fruits from treatments inducing the most severe rotting were low in calcium and high in potassium and magnesium. The occurrence of blossom-end rot was clearly associated with calcium nutrition.

HILDEBRAND (E. M.). **A micrurgical study of crown gall infection in Tomato.**—

J. agric. Res., lxv, 1, p. 45-59, 7 figs., 1942.

In studies with the crown gall organism, *Phytomonas* [*Bacterium*] *tumefaciens* [R.A.M., xxi, p. 67], inoculation of Bonny Best tomato plants was carried out with the help of a micrurgical apparatus consisting of a double Chambers micro-manipulator and accessories arranged for the isolation of bacteria under one microscope and their immediate inoculation into a plant under a second one. Single cells of the organism were found to grow and multiply readily in sterile juice extracts from young tomato plants; and also in the sap in wound cavities, isolation from wound tissue five days after inoculation with a single bacterial cell and before symptoms appeared yielding thousands of bacteria. Inoculation of single plant cells made by means of a micropipette, which caused wounds of only 3μ and did not kill the plant cells, failed to induce gall formation, thus indicating that the interior of living cells is not a favourable medium for the survival of these bacteria. The smallest wounds in which infection occurred, involving one to several epidermal cells, were produced by gently stroking the stems and petioles of tomato plants with a smooth polished needle moistened in a suspension of *Bact. tumefaciens*, tiny galls developing within five days of inoculation. It was estimated that less than 5 per

cent. of plant cells injured became infected. When shallow stem wounds, about 0·1 mm. in diameter and from 2 to 12 cells deep, were inoculated with one or more bacterial cells, it appeared that the percentage of infection was somewhat higher and the galls larger when more than one bacterial cell was used and deeper wounds inoculated: single bacteria induced gall formation in about 10 per cent. of the plants, 2 to 10 bacterial cells in 15, and 50 to 100 bacterial cells in 21 per cent. of the plants. In tests with deep wounds piercing one-fourth, one-half, and the whole of the stem, the largest galls were again associated with the deepest wounds; single bacteria produced infection in from 10 to 60 per cent. of plants, 2 to 10 bacteria in from 20 to 90 per cent., and 50 to 100 bacteria in practically every case. It appeared that the largest galls resulted from inoculation of deep wounds irrespective of the number of bacteria used in the inoculum, indicating that the depth of the wound is a more important factor in producing infection than the number of bacteria used as inoculum. It is suggested in explanation of these results that a single bacterial cell has less likelihood of finding the proper location for multiplication in the wound cavity than have larger numbers, and that deeper wounds are more favourable for infection on account of larger amounts of wound sap present. Isolations from galls from all experiments showed that bacterial population is roughly proportional to gall size.

HARTMAN (J. D.) & SAMSON (R. W.). **Wheel injury to Tomatoes during spraying and dusting operations.**—*Proc. Amer. Soc. hort. Sci.*, xl, pp. 467-470, 1 fig., 1942.

Data from spraying and dusting experiments carried out during 1941 in Indiana, in which a tractor-drawn sprayer on rubber-tyred wheels and a duster on steel-rimmed wheels, both equipped with special vine shields in front of each wheel, were used, showed that the wheel damage inflicted on tomatoes during these operations resulted in an average reduction in yield of 5 per cent. on rows injured on one side only, and of 8 per cent. in rows injured on both sides. The degree of injury was approximately the same whether the spraying and dusting took place five times or twice during the season. On the basis of these data, the average reduction in yield is estimated as being 2·3, 1·8, 1·4, and 0·7 per cent. for 6, 8, 10, and 20-row sprayers, respectively.

BLOOD (L. H.). **Scientists seek Tomato varieties resistant to Verticillium wilt.**—*Fm Home Sci., Utah*, ii, 4, pp. 5, 8, 2 figs., 1941.

Wilt (*Verticillium albo-atrum*) [*R.A.M.*, xx, p. 345; *xxi*, p. 3] is the most devastating but least conspicuous disease of tomatoes in Utah, where it causes losses of over \$100,000 to growers every year. Infected plants average 30 to 60 per cent. smaller yields than healthy ones of the same variety. The 1941 epidemic caused a reduction of over 50 per cent. in the crop on many acres in Davis and Weber Counties.

OYLER (ENID) & READ (W. H.). **A stem rot of Tomato caused by *Didymella lycopersici*.**—*Gdnrs' Chron.*, Ser. 3, cxii, 2910, p. 120, 3 figs. (2 on pp. 121, 122), 1942.

Tomato canker (*Didymella lycopersici*) [*R.A.M.*, xix, p. 500] is stated to have caused very serious losses in the Lea Valley area in 1906; it then became progressively less important, only occasional specimens being received at Cheshunt between 1918 and 1940, until 1941, when a severe outbreak occurred in one nursery. Steam sterilization of the soil in which the affected crop had grown was resorted to, but the year following the disease reappeared, specimens also being received from nine other counties.

Under commercial conditions, infection does not occur until after the plants have been put into the houses. 'Soft' plants readily become attacked, while 'hard' ones are to a large extent resistant. Preliminary experiments demonstrated that in unwounded plants infection occurs most readily just above soil-level. If the stem is wounded, infection takes place most rapidly at the site of the wound. Secondary infection is found on unwounded stems, but is more usual where they have been wounded by the removal of side shoots and leafing, and where they have been bruised

by the strings. It may also occur at the exposed end of the peduncle after the fruits have been picked.

The fungus can overwinter in the soil, on canes, wires, old strings, and the superstructure of tomato houses.

While only a small proportion of tomato plants propagated or planted out in contaminated soil normally contract stem rot, destruction of the fungus in the soil is necessary, as the disease will make rapid spread through spore dissemination from plants which have become infected directly from the soil. Soil that has been sterilized, however, especially by heat, induces the type of growth most susceptible to attack, and attention should be given to ensure that the cultural conditions are such as to counteract this increased susceptibility.

Applications of petroleum oil emulsions (used as insecticides) and of petroleum oil-copper fungicides greatly increased susceptibility to attack.

BORZINI (G.). *Sull' orientamento attuale nella lotta contro le malattie crittomiche delle piante.* [On present tendencies in the control of fungal diseases of plants.]

—*Ital. agric.*, lxxix, 3, pp. 163-166, 1942.

In the course of this discussion of attempts now being made in Italy to evolve satisfactory fungicides containing little or no copper, the author mentions that Petri has succeeded in developing strains of the S. Marzano tomato variety that are absolutely resistant to wilt (*Fusarium [bulbigenum var.] lycopersici*) [*R.A.M.*, xxi, p. 127]. The disease is stated to cause serious losses in southern Italy [cf. *ibid.*, xiii, p. 562].

PORTE (W. S.) & WELLMAN (F. L.). *Development of interspecific Tomato hybrids of horticultural value and highly resistant to Fusarium wilt.*—*Circ. U.S. Dep. Agric.* 584, 18 pp., 5 figs., 1941.

The available commercial varieties of tomato resistant to wilt (*Fusarium bulbigenum* var. *lycopersici*) [*R.A.M.*, xx, p. 607; xxi, p. 393] have proved susceptible under certain conditions. An attempt has therefore been made to produce high-quality, high-yielding tomato varieties more resistant to wilt than any so far developed in the United States. Among 145 foreign and 209 domestic lots of seed collected in 1932 a single sample (P.I. 79532) of *Lycopersicum pimpinellifolium* from Peru was found to be highly resistant to wilt both in field tests [*ibid.*, xx, p. 91] and in rigorous greenhouse trials [*ibid.*, xix, p. 170]. Through hybridization, back-crossing, and selection [details of which are given], many of the valuable horticultural qualities of the best resistant Marglobe lines have been combined with the high resistance of various lines of *L. pimpinellifolium*, resulting in the production of horticulturally acceptable, highly wilt-resistant tomatoes. Three of such selections, U.S. 7 W, U.S. 16 W, and U.S. 23 W (all back-cross selections from *Marglobe* \times *L. pimpinellifolium*) showed in greenhouse tests a wilt-resistance index of 93.3, 94.6, and 94.7, respectively, compared with 7.8 for the Marglobe parent, 97.5 for *L. pimpinellifolium*, and 1.8 for the Bonny Best control. Under the severe conditions of the test the commercial wilt-resistant varieties were scarcely distinguishable from the very susceptible check. Bulk seed of the above-mentioned selections is not yet available, but small samples have been sent to a number of State Experiment Stations for further selection and development.

BIER (J. E.). *Forest pathology in British Columbia.*—*Pulp Pap. (Mag.) Can.*, xlvi, 7, pp. 528, 530, 1942.

Broadly speaking, the whole field of forest pathology falls into two parts, one comprising the diseases caused by native organisms and the other those due to agencies of external origin [cf. *R.A.M.*, xxi, p. 275], the latter frequently assuming a much more virulent form in their new than in their indigenous habitat. An instance of this type is the white pine blister rust [*Cronartium ribicola*], first detected at Vancouver in 1921 and now threatening its host throughout the entire western range.

The reason for this access of 'aggressiveness' in the new territory is that the resistance acquired by a particular host through generations of exposure to a given parasite in one region is completely lacking in the same plant in another. Other diseases of recent introduction into British Columbia are chestnut blight [*Endothia parasitica*] (the host is of no importance locally) and willow blight [*Physalospora miyabeana* and *Fusicladium saliciperdum*] [ibid., xxi, p. 172], the latter having first been observed in Nova Scotia in 1927, since when it has spread right through the Maritime Provinces and the New England States, killing all susceptible varieties.

The introduction into Canada of exotic trees for plant-breeding purposes is also not without its attendant risks, as shown by the canker [*Septoria musiva*: ibid., xviii, p. 770] affecting Russian and native hybrid poplars (balsam \times cotton wood) [*Populus tacamahacca* and *P. balsamifera*] in the Prairie Provinces. The fungus, which is merely a minor leaf-spotting pathogen of native species, attacks the stems of exotic poplars and crosses, causing rapid destruction. All imported material and hybrids therefrom should thus be tested for a sufficient period before release for general distribution.

It is of interest to note that in Eastern Canada the presence of decay, e.g., heart rot of poplar [*Polyporus dryophilus* var. *vulpinus*] in Ontario, is of actual advantage to the timber industry as necessitating intensive surveys of the affected areas, in the course of which much more sound wood has been salvaged for merchantable logs than would be expected from the external appearance of the trees. In this connexion co-operation between foresters and pathologists is urged as a basis for the collection of valuable information on the severity and distribution of tree diseases [cf. ibid., xx, p. 435]. A case in point is afforded by the sporadic occurrence of *Fomes annosus* in a recently cut stand of 85-year-old hemlock [*Tsuga* (?) *heterophylla*] and Douglas fir [*Pseudotsuga taxifolia*] near Stave Falls in the Fraser Valley, in which there was no outward indication of disease.

In British Columbia the attention of forest pathologists at the moment is largely focussed on problems relating to natural and artificial regeneration of young Douglas firs. Damping-off [? *Pythium* and *Rhizoctonia* spp.: ibid., xii, p. 405] is not serious in nurseries at present, but it is essential to secure its complete control before embarking on the proposed innovation of sowing stratified seed to secure more even stands than those resulting from the use of dry-stored or unstratified material. The short germination period required by the new method would tend to promote fungal infection under appropriate conditions, but an unfavourable atmosphere for the fungi concerned may be induced by sowing the seed on a $\frac{3}{4}$ in. layer of peat moss and covering with the same. The only disease of importance in immature stands of *P. taxifolia* on Vancouver Island and in the Fraser Valley is the root rot caused by *Poria weiri*, which affects 19 to 40 per cent. of the dominant and co-dominant trees in a plot, a branch and stem canker [? *Phomopsis lokoyae*] being confined to poor sites, while the widespread decay due to *Armillaria mellea* is not responsible for heavy mortality.

Two diseases of some significance at Green Timbers are a leaf and stem blight of oriental cedar and a stem disease of cascara [*Rhamnus purshiana*] caused by a species of rust with its alternate stage normally on oats and wild grasses [*Puccinia coronata*], though the tree race has been experimentally shown to be innocuous to oats.

Regulations made under the Importation of Plants Regulation Ordinance, Nigeria, 1935 (No. 29 of 1935). No. 38 of 1942.—1 p., 1942.

Under an Order coming into force on 1st May, 1942, to be construed together with the Importation of Plants Regulations, 1936 [R.A.M., xvi, p. 79], and cited as the Swollen Shoot (Prohibition of Import) Regulations, 1942, the importation into Nigeria of cacao plants or seeds from the Gold Coast [ibid., xx, pp. 517, 544] except on behalf of the Agricultural Department is prohibited.

INDEX OF AUTHORS

PAGES		PAGES	
Abalos, R.	96	Baxter, D. V.	397
Abbott, E. V.	266	Bayliss, G. T. S.	334, 444
Abreu, M. R.	98	Bayliss, N. S.	397
Ackley, A. B.	15	Beale, O. W.	221
Acock, A. M.	347	Beasley, E. W.	298
Adair, C. R.	502	Beattie, J. H.	432
Adams, G. A.	277, 477	Beattie, W. R.	432
Adams, J. E.	137	Beaumont, A.	345
Adsuar, J.	401	Beck, A. B.	372
Afanasiev, M. M.	278, 510	Bedi, K. S.	120
Agati, J. A.	96	Beeley, F.	390
Ahmad, S.	164	Beeson, K. C.	541
Ainsworth, G. C.	166	Beijerinck, M. W.	343
Albrecht, H.	527	Belgrave, W. N. C.	66
Albrecht, W. A.	469	Bell, A. F.	44, 303
Alderson, V. G.	138	Bell, H. P.	212
Aldrich, W. W.	210	Bell, J. E.	205
Alexopoulos, C. J.	155	Bender, T. R.	19, 274
Allan, F. E.	430	Benloch, M.	402
Allard, H. A.	429	Bennett, C. W.	503
Allcroft, R.	248	Benson, M. E.	255
Allen, F. W.	530	Benton, V. L.	56
Allington, W. B.	166, 308	Berkeley, G. H.	146, 147, 429, 533
Allison, J. L.	22, 337	Bernstein, T. B.	370
Altergot, W. F.	261	Bertrand, P.	63
Amaral, J. Ferraz do	319	Bever, W. M.	522
Amaral, S. Franco do	74	Bewley, W. F.	97, 103, 172
Altstatt, G. E.	481	Bier, J. E.	172, 543
Anderson, A. J.	69	Birkinshaw, J. H.	508
Anderson, H. W.	82, 85, 437	Bisby, G. R.	427, 539
Anderson, P. J.	506	Bitancourt, A. A.	225, 246, 428, 455, 481
Andes, J. O.	145	Björkman, E.	356
Andrews, L. K.	108	Black, L. M.	36
Andrews, S. R.	234	Black, R. H.	444
Andrus, C. F.	112	Blackford, F. W.	74
Antonova, S. P.	115	Blackwell, E. M.	165
Araki, M.	200	Blair, I. D.	412
Arbuckle, W. S.	17	Blair, K. E.	15
Arentsen, S. T.	480	Blanco, M. C.	198
Ark, P. A.	94, 130, 202	Blank, L. M.	75, 287
Armitage, F. D.	424	Blaser, R. E.	337, 527
Armstrong, E. F.	214	Bliss, D. E.	12, 13, 195
Artemieva, S. S.	172	Blodgett, E. C.	27, 339
Arwidsson, T.	350	Blodgett, F. M.	159
Ashraf, M.	76	Blood, H. L.	103, 230, 353, 542
Atkinson, H. J.	296	Bochstahler, H. W.	60
Atkinson, J. D.	144, 294	Bodine, E. W.	295, 338, 339, 378
Atwater, C. G.	43	Boewe, G. H.	501
Atwell, E. A.	476	Bonar, L.	394
Aubert, P.	457	Bond, T. E. T.	19, 182
Averna-Saccá, R.	524	Bonde, R.	37, 302, 537
Badcock, E. C.	176	Bonne, C.	411
Baechler, R. H.	107	Bonner, F.	296
Bagchee, K. D.	399	Borg, J.	509
Bailey, H. E.	313	Borges, M. de L. V.	243, 491
Bain, D. C.	286	Bortels, H.	266, 336
Baker, E. E.	289	Borzini, G.	543
Baker, K. F.	19, 257, 371	Bose, R. D.	327
Baker, M. W.	436	Bose, S. R.	36
Bamberg, R. H.	133	Bottocher, E. J.	502
Barducci, T. B.	517	Bottomey, A. M.	181
Bärner, J.	469	Botwright, W. E.	365
Barratt, R. W.	353	Boughey, A. S.	198
Barrentine, M.	541	Bouguy, S. M.	51
Bartram, H.	453, 502	Bowden, R. A.	221
Batjer, L. P.	529	Bowen, J. W.	109
Bauer, E.	343	Bowman, D. H.	448
Baur, K.	27, 143, 145, 531	Boyce, J. S.	275
		Boyd, O. C.	341

	PAGES		PAGES
Bozovaisky, L. S.	505	Churchill, E. S.	365
Brandenburg, E.	471, 510	Claasen, C. E.	519
Braun, A. C.	6, 167, 268	Clapp, W. B.	418
Bremer, H.	229	Clark, F. E.	137, 445
Brenchley, W. E.	317	Clayton, E. E.	227, 505
Brentzel, W. E.	263	Clinch, P. E. M.	219, 265
Brett, C. C.	131	Cochran, H. L.	161
Brewbaker, H. E.	400	Cochran, L. C.	74, 85
Brewer, J. H.	424	Coffman, F. A.	8, 251
Briceño-Iragorry, L.	254	Cohen, S. I.	236
Brierley, P.	17	Cohen, S. S.	169
Brinkerhoff, L. A.	528	Cohen, V. L.	290
Britton, J. E.	144	Coke, J. E.	316
Broadfoot, W. C.	143	Cole, J. R.	55
Broders, A. C.	199	Colhoun, J.	489
Brodie, H. J.	261	Collins, C. W.	104
Brooks, F. T.	498	Collins, D. L.	106
Brooks, R. L.	509	Colmes, A.	418
Brown, J. G.	138, 252, 365	Colquhoun, T. T.	103
Brown, J. H.	464	Colwell, W. E.	494
Brown, N. A.	247	Conant, N. F.	488
Bruner, S. C.	98	Conn, H. J.	214, 502
Buchanan, T. S.	57	Conn, J. E.	214
Buchanan, W. D.	273, 433	Connors, I. L.	121, 172
Buckman, S. J.	108	Cook, C.	433
Bucksteeg, W.	27	Cook, H. T.	515
Burkholder, P. R.	20	Cook, W. C.	477
Burkholder, W. H.	52, 325, 469, 517	Cook, W. R. I.	33
Burrell, A. B.	528	Cooke, W. B.	508
Burton, G. W.	371	Coons, G. H.	60, 114
Burvill, G. H.	68	Cordner, H. B.	538
Buschlen, M. J.	358	Corkle, M. A.	284, 301
Cabral, R. V. de G.	243, 496	Cormack, M. W.	143
Cain, J. C.	528, 529	Cory, E. N.	417
Caldwell, J.	536	Costa, A. S.	115, 119, 239, 354
Caldwell, N. E. H.	74	Costa, G. A.	488
Campbell, J. C.	425	Cowart, F. F.	378, 524
Campbell, W. A.	270, 395	Cowie, G. A.	41
Campbell, W. G.	271	Cox, C. E.	432
Campi, M. D.	139	Craigie, J. H.	283
Candioli, P.	463	Cralley, E. M.	502
Carlson, J. W.	527	Croll, R. D.	250
Carlyle, R. E.	43	Cross, W. E.	485
Carrera, C. J. M.	200	Croucher, H. H.	148, 241
Carter, J. C.	272	Croxall, H. E.	479
Carter, R. H.	497	Cummins, G. B.	73
Carter, W.	151, 413	Cunningham, I. J.	453
Cartwright, K. St. G.	311	Cupples, H. L.	212
Carver, C. W.	253	Curtis, O. F.	387
Cash, E. K.	355	Cuthbertson, A.	477
Cash, M.	384	Cutting, W. C.	200
Cassil, C. C.	201	Da Camara, E. de S.	504
Cass-Smith, W. P.	259, 368, 454	Da Camara, M. de S.	243
Cation, D.	146	Dahlberg, H. W.	400
Cavalcanti, A. P.	254	Daines, R. H.	425, 515
Chace, W. G.	89, 534	Da Luz, C. G.	243, 504
Chafee, F. H.	418	D'Angremond, A.	323
Chamberlain, D. W.	337	Danilovski, A.	476
Chamberlain, E. E.	28	Darley, E. F.	144
Chamberlain, G. C.	86	Darroch, J. G.	189
Champlin, S. H.	104	Darrow, G. M.	340, 421
Chandler, F. B.	113	Dastur, J. F.	487, 525
Chapman, R. A.	330	Dastur, R. H.	449
Chardon, C. E.	351	Davey, A. E.	399
Charles, V. K.	288	David, E.	218
Cheo, C. C.	45	Davidson, R. W.	54, 270, 395
Chester, K. S.	196, 414, 481	Davis, B. H.	20
Childers, N. F.	207	Davis, B. L.	417
Childs, J. F. L.	117	Davis, K. P.	105
Chona, B. L.	347	Davis, S. H.	273, 275, 434
Christiansen, R. M.	103	Davis, W. C.	173
Christopher, E. P.	530	Davy, R. H.	515

	PAGES		PAGES
Day, W. R.	234	Faes, H.	279, 457
Dearness, J.	47	Fahmi, T.	188, 197
Decker, P.	159	Fawcett, G. L.	5, 98, 481
De Fluiter, H. J.	136, 287	Fawcett, H. S.	74, 343
De Jong, W. H.	42	Fedulaev, A. L.	251
Delcanizó, J.	354	Feinberg, S. M.	370
Dellecoste, A.	226	Felix, E. L.	298
De Marchi, I.	178	Fellows, H.	192, 371
Demaree, J. B.	318, 463	Fenton, F. A.	414
Demjanovitch, N. I.	190	Ferguson, W.	418
Denham, H.	461	Fernando, M.	213
Dennis, A. C.	317	Ferraz do Amaral, J.	319
Dennis, R. W. G.	439	Fickendey, E.	196
Desforges, A.	525	Field, C. P.	372
De Souza, O. F.	239	Findlay, W. P. K.	311, 508
De Turk, E. E.	300	Fischer, G. W.	11, 293, 294
De Vasconcellos, A. T.	243	Fisher, D. V.	144
Dey, N. C.	254, 333	Fitzpatrick, R. E.	209
Diachun, S.	308, 431, 540	Flemmer, A. L.	383
Dick, J. B.	450	Flor, H. H.	80
Dickson, B. T.	318	Foister, C. E.	439
Di Fonzo, M.	417	Foley, M. P.	199
Dillman, A. C.	418	Folsom, D.	93, 499
Dillon Weston, W. A. R.	131, 187	Fomin, E. E.	8
Dimond, A. E.	269	Forbes, I. L.	348
Dobbs, C. G.	385	Forster, H. C.	250
Dodd, A. P.	33	Forster, R.	115, 354
Dodge, B. O.	18, 148, 425	Foster, H. H.	505
Dodge, C. W.	419	Frampton, V. L.	154, 307
Dodge, E. M.	46, 47	Franco do Amaral, S.	74
D'Oliveira, A. L. B.	504	Frank, T. J.	369
D'Oliveira, B.	243, 303, 491	Fresa, R.	173
D'Oliveira, M. de L.	243, 490	Frezzi, M. J.	195
Donaldson, J. M.	525	Fries, N.	389
Donen, I.	319	Fritz, C. W.	476
Doolittle, S. P.	112, 432, 438, 513	Fromer, J.	418
Dorst, H. E.	230	Fullerton, R. P.	451
Dowson, W. J.	364	Fulling, E. H.	445
Drake, M.	43	Fulton, J. P.	437
Drechsler, C.	15, 77, 488	Fulton, R. W.	539
Drummond-Gonçalves, O.	338	Funke, H.	94
Du Buy, H. G.	228	Furry, M. S.	152
Dufrénoy, J.	291, 348, 536		
Duggar, B. M.	67	Gadd, I.	10
Du Plessis, S. J.	278	Gaines, E. F.	519
Dutcher, J. D.	216	Gaines, J. G.	505
Dutky, S. R.	78	Gainey, P. L.	445
Dutt, J. O.	40	Gallástegui, I.	338
Dykstra, T. P.	262, 502	Garcés, C.	6
		Garcés-Orejuela, C.	99
Eaton, F. M.	26, 393	Garrett, S. D.	133, 481
Eddins, A. H.	216	Garrison, E. R.	16
Edgecombe, A. E.	59	Gastineau, F. M.	16
Edgerton, C. W.	44, 348	Gäumann, E.	203
Edmondson, J.	17	Gebhardt, L. P.	200
Edson, H. A.	33	Gerhardt, F.	295, 532
Edwards, E. T.	72, 286	Gewecke, H.	235
Eggers, V.	186	Gholson, J. H.	16
Ehrlich, J.	33, 56	Gilbert, W. W.	438
Eide, C. J.	38	Gill, L. S.	234, 518
Ellenby, C.	219	Gill, W. D.	79
Elles, N. B.	417	Gillespy, T. G.	206
Elliker, P. R.	16	Giordano, H. J.	187
Elliott, C.	330, 449	Glaube, E. F.	342
Elmer, O. H.	263, 345, 360	Glasscock, H. H.	62, 179
Elrod, R. P.	167, 186, 268, 325	Glassstone, V. F. C.	392
Emmons, C. W.	139, 301, 333	Glick, D. P.	95, 512
Engleth, G. H.	57	Glister, G. A.	67
English, H.	532	Glynn, M. D.	521
English, W. H.	531	Godfrey, G. H.	5
Esfandiari, E.	99	Godoy, E. F.	226
Evans, A. W.	259	Goldsworthy, M. C.	463, 497
Evans, J. W.	318	Gonçalves, C. R.	413

	PAGES		PAGES
Gonçalves-Silva, S.	88	Heinicke, A. J.	529
Gonzalez Ochoa, A.	254	Helfphenstine, R. K.	109
Gorlenko, M. V.	191	Helson, G. A. H.	540
Goss, R. W.	39, 358, 502	Hely, F. W.	519
Gosselin, R.	57	Hely, P. C.	308
Gottlieb, M.	138	Henderson, J. L.	138
Gottschalk, F. W.	108	Henderson, R. G.	167, 539
Gould, C. J.	293	Henrici, A. T.	44
Gowen, J. W.	343, 523	Henry, B.	67
Graham, T. W.	505	Henry, V. M.	156
Granovsky, A. A.	265	Hepting, G. H.	310
Gratz, L. O.	514	Herbert, T. T.	65
Graves, A. H.	173	Herbst, W.	23
Gray, E. G.	455	Herbut, P. A.	290
Grayson, A. R.	22	Herman, F. A.	294
Greaney, F. J.	366	Herrick, J. A.	534
Greathouse, G. A.	75	Hertzman, N.	478
Green, D. E.	81, 112, 316	Hester, J. B.	310
Green, E. L.	463, 497	Heuberger, J. W.	269, 297, 341, 354, 424
Greene, H. C.	100	Hewitt, W. B.	278
Greene, J. E.	418	Hilborn, M. T.	302, 475
Gregory, J. N.	315	Hildebrand, A. A.	399
Greis, H.	113	Hildebrand, E. M.	387, 495, 530, 541
Griesbeck	252	Hill, A. V.	430
Griesinger, R.	217, 501	Hill, H. W.	334
Grieve, B. J.	91	Hills, C. H.	101, 473
Grogan, R. G.	221, 507	Hirschhorn, E.	249
Groves, A. B.	148	Hirt, R. R.	314
Groves, J. W.	54	Ho, W. C.	72
Grütte, E.	38	Hochapfel, H.	431
Guarch, A. M.	129	Hodge, E. S.	522
Gunesch, W. E.	423	Hoerner, G. R.	391
Guseff, M.	484	Hofer, A. W.	511
Haasis, F. A.	335	Hofmeyr, J. H.	499
Haddow, W. R.	174, 356, 398	Hollaender, A.	301
Hadorn, C.	497	Hollinger, P. H.	255
Haeneler, C. M.	252	Holmberg, C.	157
Hagborg, W. A. F.	446	Holmes, F. O.	277
Hageman, R. H.	522	Holton, C. S.	11, 190, 249, 284, 329
Hagenguth, K.	217	Holzer, W. F.	274
Hahn, G. G.	260	Hood, E. G.	255
Hähne, H.	512	Hooper, K. H.	289
Haller, H. L.	463	Hooton, D. R.	137
Haller, M. H.	529	Hopkins, J. C. F.	31, 213, 216, 477
Hamid, A.	338	Hopp, H.	314
Hamly, D. H.	33	Hoppe, P. E.	484
Hansen, H. N.	215, 223, 306, 534, 535	Hopperstead, S. L.	420
Hansen, H. P.	536	Horning, E. S.	248
Hansing, E. D.	204, 264	Horsfall, J. G.	354, 424
Hanson, E. W.	21	Hotson, H. H.	258
Hardison, J. R.	493	Hough, L. F.	530
Hardy, E.	315	Houston, B. R.	278, 445
Harmer, P. M.	193	How, J. E.	388
Harrar, J. G.	332	Howard, F. L.	104, 394
Harrington, F. M.	390	Hoyman, W. G.	70
Harris, M. R.	23, 310	Huber, G. A.	27, 143, 145, 531
Harris, R. V.	25, 379, 380	Hubert, E. E.	177
Harry, J. B.	273	Hucker, G. J.	17
Harter, L. L.	181, 478, 515	Huelin, F. E.	374
Hartman, J. D.	542	Hulbary, R. L.	275
Harvey, H. L.	368	Humbfeld, H.	288
Haselhoff, E.	535	Humphrey, H. B.	8, 189
Haskell, R. J.	112	Humphrey, N.	439
Hastings, R. C.	537	Hutchins, H. L.	156
Hayes, H. K.	329	Hutchins, L. M.	85
Haynes, E.	16	Hyde, W. C.	261
Haynes, W. C.	309	Hynes, H. J.	134, 318
Heald, F. D.	190, 236	Hyre, R. A.	424
Hedden, O. K.	88	Ingram, J. W.	266
Heggeness, H. G.	291	Ireland, C. F.	22
Heilmann, F. R.	199	Irving, H.	290
Heim, R.	333	Israelski, W. P.	172

	PAGES		PAGES
Iwanowski, D.	343	Kreutzer, W. A.	117, 339, 500, 501, 512
Iverson, V. E.	390	Kulkarni, G. S.	485
Jameson, D. H.	467	Kung-Hsiang, L.	337
Jamieson, M. C.	365	Kunkel, L. Ö.	257, 340
Janke, F.	384	Kuvshinova, O. P.	261
Jeffers, W. F.	421	Kvint, N.	470
Jenkins, A. E.	45, 225, 335, 371, 428, 455, 481	Lacey, M. S.	282
Jenkins, J. M.	317	Lachance, R. O.	60, 63
Jenkins, W. A.	64, 119, 239	Lagoni, H.	334
Jenny, J.	183	Lambert, E. B.	182
Jensen, H. L.	370, 409	Langdon, R. F.	81, 526
Jensen, J. H.	39, 358	Lange, J. E.	429
Johns, C. K.	256	Langford, G. S.	417
Johnson, E. M.	308, 431, 540	Langford, M. H.	207, 208, 460
Johnson, F.	293, 483	Large, A. M.	488
Johnson, H. W.	337, 360	Large, E. C.	345
Johnson, J.	48, 308, 343, 388, 539	Large, J. R.	55
Johnson, J. P.	108	Larter, L. N. H.	241
Johnson, J. W.	175	Laskaris, T.	18
Johnson, T.	132, 189	Lavallée, E.	52
Johnston, C. O.	371	Lavygina, K. S.	261
Jones, F. R.	22	Leach, J. G.	355, 502
Jones, L. H.	153	Leach, L. D.	178, 358, 399
Joshi, B. M.	302	Leach, R.	241, 381
Kadow, K. J.	420	Ledingham, G. A.	277, 477
Kamat, M. N.	440	Leece, C. W.	347
Kanivetz, I. L.	220	Leeper, G. W.	284
Kargopulova, N. N.	519	Lefebvre, C. L.	204, 337, 360, 371
Karling, J. S.	351, 428	Leitzke, B.	134
Karmarkar, D. V.	302	Leon, E. R.	289
Karthaus, J. P.	102	Lepesme, P.	524
Kassanis, B.	169, 302	Lesselbaum, H. R.	53
Katznelson, H.	443	Leukel, R. W.	10, 485
Kausche, G. A.	51	Leus-Palo, S.	47
Kavanagh, V.	468	Levisohn, I.	298
Kawamura, E.	96, 171, 273	Levitt, E. C.	136
Kearns, H. G. H.	457, 474	Levitt, J.	537
Keitt, G. W.	207, 208, 460	Lewis, H. C.	73
Kelly, C. F.	444	Li, C. C.	52
Kemp, H. J.	189	Lider, W. R.	114
KenKnight, G.	361	Liebow, A. A.	488
Kent, G. C.	282	Lightle, P. C.	365
Kent, N. L.	35	Lima, A. O.	452
Kernkamp, M. F.	20, 194, 522	Lincoln, C.	494
Kerr, W. H.	503	Lincoln, R. E.	523
Kevorkian, A.	202	Lindgren, C. C.	154, 387, 467
Key, J. A.	488	Lindgren, G.	154, 467
Khan, A. A.	414	Lindgren, R. M.	435
Khariton, E. G.	220	Link, G. K. K.	186
Kheswalla, K. F.	120, 504	Linn, M. B.	335, 361, 498
Kidd, F.	372	List, G. M.	501
Kimmy, J. W.	507	Livingston, J. E.	484
King, M. E.	379, 380	Locke, S. B.	130
Kjaer, A.	10	Loegering, W. Q.	132
Klein, E.	187	Loest, F. C.	486
Klemme, D. E.	288	Lohwag, K.	56, 267
Kligman, A. M.	401	Lombberg, B. R.	109
Klimke, A.	116	Longrée, K.	154
Klotz, L. J.	77, 332	Loos, C. A.	89
Knught, A. G.	437	Lorenz, O. A.	114
Koch, L. W.	399	Loring, H. S.	392
Koehler, B.	326, 367	Love, J. G.	199
Koerth, C. J.	525	Lubchenko, A. E.	139
Köhler, E.	469, 500	Lucas, G. B.	303
Kohn, R.	82	Ludbrook, W. V.	519, 520
Kokoma, R. I.	283	Ludlam, G. B.	138
Kondareff, M.	402	Luke, W. J.	348
Kotila, J. E.	60	Lunn, W. M.	505
Kramer, M.	102, 262	Luthra, J. C.	69, 76, 120
Krantz, F. A.	38	Lutman, B. F.	38, 156, 157, 217
Kreutzberg, V. E.	210	Lyneis, M. M.	130
		Lyon, C. B.	541

INDEX OF AUTHORS

	PAGES		PAGES
Ma, R.	12	Miller, J. H.	100, 221, 507
Macaspac, I. S.	491	Miller, P. A.	422
MacClement, W. D.	90	Miller, P. R.	14, 196
Machacek, J. E.	366	Miller, P. W.	310, 311
Mack, W. B.	269	Millikan, C. R.	483
Macke, W.	400	Milliron, H. E.	21
MacLachlan, J. D.	193	Mills, P. J.	348
MacMillan, H. G.	221, 427	Mitchell, R. B.	137
MacRae, R.	535	Mittmann-Maier, G.	460
Madarang, S. A.	302	Mix, A. J.	267
Magee, C. J.	31	Modlibowska, I.	372
Magness, J. R.	294	Montgomery, H. B. S.	25, 86
Maier, W.	241, 460	Moore, M.	79
Mains, E. B.	454	Moore, W. C.	140, 465
Mallmann, W. L.	365	Moore, W. D.	432
Malyshkin, P.	470	Moraes, L.	57
Marchionatto, J. B.	14, 77, 413, 507, 518	Morgan, E. T.	92
Marsh, R. W.	457, 470	Morgan, W. L.	308
Martin, D. S.	370, 452	Morris, H. E.	510
Martin, G. W.	44	Morrison, H. B.	334
Martin, H.	470	Morwood, R. B.	71
Martin, J. P.	349	Moss, V. D.	105
Martin, W. H.	425	Moulton, J. E.	523
Martin, W. J.	20, 194	Mouravieff, V. P.	237
Marudarajan, D.	165	Mrak, E. M.	428
Masera, E.	289	Mujica, R. F.	470
Mason, E. W.	427	Müller, A. S.	324, 346, 359, 427
Mason, L. R.	138	Müller, K. O.	217, 501
Mather, K.	213	Mundinger, F. G.	296
Matsumoto, T.	352	Mundkur, B. B.	305, 327, 504
Matthews, T. M.	53	Murphy, A.	510
Maxson, A. C.	400	Murphy, H. C.	8, 251, 329
May, C.	273	Murray, R. K. S.	97
Mayer, A.	343	Murrill, W. A.	504
Mayhugh, M. S.	26	Mushin, R.	425
McCallum, A. W.	172	Muskett, A. E.	489
McCallum, R. D.	26		
McClean, A. P. D.	167	Nakata, K.	160, 170
McClellan, W. D.	422	Nance, N. W.	321
McCollam, M. E.	461	Narayananurthi, D.	399
McCorkle, R. G.	525	Nath, P.	206
McCoy, E. E.	253	Nattrass, R. M.	147, 426
McHargue, J. S.	522	Neal, D. C.	524
McIntire, F. C.	409	Nedeltscheff, N.	402
McKay, R.	219, 458	Negroni, P.	333, 526
McKelvey, J. J.	332	Neill, J. C.	205, 452
McKinney, H. H.	101, 168, 227, 267, 371, 473	Neilson-Jones, W.	312
McLaughlin, J. H.	331	Nelson, O. A.	10
McLean, J. G.	158, 500	Nelson, R. H.	201
McLean, R. C.	33	Nemlienko, F. E.	8, 12
McMartin, A.	222	Neufeld, C. C.	261
McNew, G. L.	511	Newman, F. S.	398
McWhorter, F. P.	61, 90	Newton, J. H.	378
Meier, K.	528	Newton, M.	132, 189
Melchers, L. E.	248, 385, 523, 528	Nicholson, A. J.	318
Melhus, I. E.	282, 284, 301, 362	Nicholson, R. I.	136
Melin, E.	390	Nicolaisen, W.	134
Mellecker, J. B.	436	Niemeyer, L.	439
Melville, R.	135	Nieschlag, F.	10
Mendoza, J. M.	47	Niethammer, A.	513
Menon, S. K. R.	331	Nobrega, N. R.	87, 93
Meredith, C. H.	340	Norkrans, B.	390
Merrill, R. M.	88	Norman, A. G.	43
Métalnikov, S.	253	Norval, R.	337
Metcalfe, C. R.	140	Nottebohm, T.	526
Middleton, J. T.	69, 119, 201, 222, 292, 526	Nover, J.	521
Mielke, J. L.	507	Novitzki, S. I.	283
Milanez, F. R.	414	Nusbaum, C. J.	44
Milbrath, D. G.	4		
Milbrath, J. A.	276, 462, 532	Ocfemia, G. O.	491, 535
Miles, L. E.	8	Ogilvie, L.	59, 468, 479
Miller, G. L.	229	Olson, A. J.	233
Miller, H. J.	148	Örnhjelm, R.	59

	PAGES		PAGES
Orsini, G.	426	Rahman, K. A.	464
Orth, H.	217	Raistrick, H.	344
Osterwalder, A.	495	Raleigh, G. J.	114
Östlund, N.	30	Ramakrishnan, T. S.	161, 162, 471
Ou, S. H.	45, 55	Ramsbottom, J.	455
Owen, R. C.	368	Ramsey, G. B.	316
Oxford, A. E.	344	Ranganathan, V.	399
Oyler, E.	542	Rangel, E. D.	424
Padmanabhan, S. Y.	472	Rankin, W. H.	106
Padwick, G. W.	1, 206, 347, 428	Raper, J. R.	342
Pal, B. P.	327	Raper, K. B.	164
Palmer, J. W.	111	Ravnay-Preininger, T.	334
Palmer, R. C.	144	Rawlings, R. E.	431
Pape, H.	492	Rawlins, T. E.	83
Pardo-Castello, V.	289	Rawson, R. W.	289
Park, M.	213	Ray, W. W.	331
Parker, D. L.	493	Rayner, M. C.	298
Parker, K. G.	106	Read, W. H.	542
Parker-Rhodes, A. F.	150, 422, 497	Reed, G. M.	251, 367, 446
Parkin, E. A.	525	Reed, H. S.	536
Parris, G. K.	21, 149, 258, 382	Reid, J. D.	290
Partansky, A. M.	498	Reid, W. H. E.	17
Peele, T. C.	221	Reinau, E. H.	400
Peglion, V.	377	Reinboth, G.	240
Penta, A. Q.	15	Renn, C. E.	298
Perrault, C.	63	Rennerfelt, E.	58, 314, 315, 357
Petch, T.	14, 15, 164, 451	Resihr, B.	466
Peterson, A. M.	265	Retter, G. R.	239
Peterson, M. L.	528	Rettger, L. F.	43
Peterson, P. D.	211	Reuther, W.	529
Peterson, W. H.	409	Reyneke, J.	84
Petrak, F.	99, 224, 226	Rhoads, A. S.	449, 486, 497
Petri, L.	151	Riakhovsky, N. A.	251
Peyer, E.	515	Riceman, D. S.	69
Pfältzer, A.	220, 287	Rich, S.	513
Phaff, H. J.	428	Richardson, A. S.	4
Phillips, J. H. H.	506	Richardson, J. K.	448
Pierce, R. G.	355	Richardson, L. T.	170
Piland, J. R.	22	Rigler, N. E.	75
Pimentel, A. A. L.	243	Riker, A. J.	67, 130, 409
Pinckard, J. A.	498, 505	Ripperton, J. C.	21
Pinto, M. C. de R.	266	Roach, W. A.	459
Piper, C. S.	179	Robbins, W. J.	12, 468
Pirone, P. P.	53, 274	Roberts, J. W.	378, 383
Plagge, H. E.	457	Robinson, H. M.	152
Plakidas, A. G.	274, 533	Robinson, T. R.	210, 463
Platt, A. W.	189	Robinson, U. M.	41
Plotho, O. v.	34	Rodenhisler, H. A.	284, 329
Plummer, B. E.	37	Rodriguez, L.	346
Plunkett, O. A.	427	Rogers, R. E.	288
Polayes, S. H.	139	Romell, L. G.	151
Pom erleau, R.	54, 57, 395, 508	Roorbach, C. L.	418
Pomeroy, C. S.	210	Roque, A.	401
Pontis, R. E.	534	Rosen, H. R.	484
Porte, W. S.	543	Ruehle, G. D.	95, 142
Porter, R. H.	112	Runner, G. A.	318
Powell, D.	82	Rupert, J. A.	355
Powers, W. L.	22	Ruschmann, G.	453
Pozdena, L.	502	Ryjkoff, V. L.	473
Pratt, H. N.	418	Ryker, T. C.	305
Presley, J. T.	203, 253, 487	Sabourova, P. V.	191
Preston, N. C.	177	Saccas, A.	226
Price, W. C.	64	Sahni, B.	214
Proctor, P.	110	Saint, S. J.	161
Quinn, N. R.	236	Saksena, R. K.	91
Quintanilha, A.	301	Salmon, S. C.	444
Rabanus, A.	235, 277	Samson, R. W.	542
Rademacher, B.	465	Sanford, W. E.	153
Rae, M. V.	369	Sangster, R. G.	434
Rafay, S. A.	472	Sattar, A.	120
		Savage, E. F.	378
		Savile, D. B. O.	390

	PAGES		PAGES
Săvulescu, T.	249, 404	Stanley, W. M.	49, 229
Sayre, C. B.	114	Stanton, T. R.	251, 329, 330
Scarseth, G. D.	43	Stapp, C.	444, 500
Schaefer, E. E.	15	Starr, M. P.	517
Scherer, J. H.	290	Steinberg, R. A.	35, 468
Schiel, E.	369	Stephenson, R. B.	372
Schindler, A. J.	484	Stevens, H. E.	463
Schmidt, C. M.	467	Stevens, N. E.	213, 330
Schmitz, H.	108	Stevens, R. B.	213
Schoenberman, B. B.	255	Stier, H. L.	438
Schrenk, H. von	108	Stoa, T. E.	418
Schroeder, R. A.	469	Stoddard, D. L.	438
Schweizer, G.	70	Stoddard, E. M.	28, 296
Scott, W. D.	177	Stoker, G. L.	237
Seaver, F. J.	504	Stokes, W. E.	337, 527
Serrano, M.	78	Storey, H. H.	241
Shapovalov, M.	103, 230	Störmer, I.	218
Sharvelte, E. G.	494	Stoy, O.	23
Shaw, E. B.	497	Straib, W.	410, 489
Shaw, K. J.	505	Stringfield, G. H.	448
Shaw, L.	65	Stubbs, L. L.	438
Sheffield, F. M. L.	169, 307	Stumbo, C. R.	445
Shepherd, D. R.	301	Subba Rao, M. K.	47
Sherman, G. D.	193, 522	Suit, R. F.	296
Sibling, D. H.	43	Suneson, C. A.	249, 445
Sidki, I.	56	Sutton, W. S.	79
Sikka, M. R.	76	Sydow, H.	163, 164, 306
Silberschmidt, K.	87, 93, 102	Szirmai, J.	501
Simmonds, J. H.	87		
Simpson, D. M.	451	Tager, M.	488
Simura, T.	166	Takahashi, S.	199
Singh, B.	141, 414	Takahashi, W. N.	228, 465
Singh, B. N.	283	Takimoto, S.	160, 170, 491
Singh, L.	338, 414	Talley, P. J.	75, 287
Singh, U. B.	145, 458, 530	Tamayo, F.	351
Sison, P. L.	96	Tartakowsky, S. J.	480
Sitnikova, G. M.	251	Taylor, C. F.	148
Skaptason, J. B.	469	Taylor, G. G.	144, 294
Slate, G. L.	296	Teakle, L. J. H.	68, 92
Smirnova, V. A.	473	Teng, S. C.	45
Smith, A. L.	197	Terrier, C. A.	434, 472
Smith, B. L.	428	Texera, D. A.	346, 427
Smith, C. E.	289, 417	Tharp, W. H.	74
Smith, C. O.	338	Thatcher, F. S.	468
Smith, D. J.	338	Theden, G.	436
Smith, F. G. W.	77	Thirumalachar, M. J.	233, 463, 539
Smith, G.	344	Thom, C.	137, 164, 468
Smith, G. E. P.	475	Thomas, H. Earl	19, 83, 371, 462
Smith, K. M.	90	Thomas, H. R.	506
Smith, M. E.	397	Thomas, K. M.	362
Smith, P. G.	60	Thomas, R. C.	344
Smith, R. E.	83	Thomas, W.	269
Smith, R. T.	417	Thomas, W. D.	313
Smith, T. E.	505	Thompson, E. O.	271
Smith, W. K.	22	Thompson, J. C.	153
Smock, R. M.	82, 209, 457	Thompson, M. V.	165
Smucker, S. J.	54, 433, 474	Thompson, R. C.	513
Snell, K.	262	Thornberry, H. H.	437
Snell, W. H.	29, 533	Thung, T. H.	102, 226
Snyder, W. C.	141, 215, 223, 306, 513, 514	Thurston, H. W.	148
Söding, H.	94, 500	Tilford, P. E.	36, 53
Sokoloff, V. P.	77, 332	Timonin, M. I.	256
Sommer, A. L.	156	Tims, E. C.	31, 296
Soukhoff, K. S.	9	Tindale, G. B.	374
Southwick, F. W.	207, 457	Tipograf, D. Y.	40
Sparrow, F. K.	267, 472	Tisdale, H. B.	450
Spencer, E. L.	50, 169, 392	Tisdale, W. H.	383
Spolyar, L. W.	16	Tolman, B.	237, 510
Sprague, R.	203, 204, 366, 493	Tompkins, C. M.	118, 201, 202, 257, 292, 526
Sproule, W. H.	79	Traub, H. P.	210, 463
Staehelin, M.	457	Trespalacios, F.	289
Stahl, B. M.	444	Trout, S. A.	374
Standing, E. T.	365	Tucker, C. M.	20, 118, 276, 393, 526

	PAGES		PAGES
Tucker, J.	263	Wernham, C. C.	142
Tunstall, A. C.	391	West, C.	372
Turner, N.	297	West, J.	409
Turner, W. I.	156	Weston, W. H.	336, 384
Turton, A. G.	92	Wheeler, H. E.	217
Tuthill, C. S.	159	Wheeler, H. G.	288
Ullstrup, A. J.	71	Wheeting, L. C.	143
Urlaub, G. S.	534	Whipple, O. C.	231
Urquijo Landaluze, P.	434, 475	White, D. P.	90
Valleau, W. D.	307, 308, 431, 535, 540	White, N. H.	520
Vallega, J.	133, 187	White, P. R.	6
Van der Merwe, C. P.	142	White, R. T.	78
Van der Merwe, D. J.	467	White, W. L.	99
Van Doren, A.	82	Whitehead, T.	86
Van Pernis, P. A.	255	White-Stevens, R. H.	426
Vanterpool, T. C.	366	Wiant, J. S.	316
Vassilevska, L. M.	232	Widder, F.	312
Vasudeva, R. S.	76, 450, 514	Wiehe, P. O.	98, 125
Vaughn, D. B.	395	Wiemer, H.	65
Veitch, R.	183	Wiesner, B. P.	283
Verner, A.	470	Wilcox, R. B.	148, 496
Verona, O.	178	Wild, A. S.	68
Verrals, A. F.	175	Wilkinson, E. H.	419, 459
Viennot-Bourgin, G.	226	Williams, R. O.	281
Vincent, R. H.	417	Williamson, C. E.	335
Voelcker, O. J.	409	Willingham, J. J.	80
Vogel, O. A.	32, 519	Willis, J. H.	472
Volk, G. M.	337	Wilson, E. E.	420
Vorobieva, M. N.	267	Wilson, H. B.	315
Vysozki, P. G.	477	Wilson, J. D.	32, 230
Wade, B. L.	112	Wilson, R. D.	291
Wager, V. A.	46, 149, 172	Wilson, W. E.	285
Wakefield, E. M.	427	Winter, A. G.	11
Wakeman, S. A.	91, 248	Wirk, R. M.	109
Waldbott, G. L.	15	Wise, S. E.	269
Waldee, E. L.	282	Wogulum, R. S.	73
Waldo, G. F.	340, 496	Wolf, F. A.	54
Walker, A. G.	134	Wood, C. A.	86
Walker, E. A.	269	Wood, J. I.	33
Walker, E. H.	351	Woodbridge, C. G.	209
Walker, J. C.	59, 60, 158, 317	Woodhead, C. E.	28
Wallace, G. B.	180, 281	Woodroof, N. C.	402
Wallace, T.	468	Woodruff, H. B.	248
Walter, W. G.	17	Woods, M. W.	228
Wang, Y. C.	410	Worley, C. L.	53
Wannan, J. S.	289	Wormald, H.	24, 25, 86, 360, 419, 461
Wardlaw, C. W.	533	Wright, E.	104
Ware, W. M.	62	Wright, L. E.	296
Warington, K.	317	Wynd, F. L.	307
Wark, D. C.	285, 482	Yarwood, C. E.	63, 84, 382
Warvi, W. N.	289	Yatsenko-Khmélévsky, A. A.	232
Waterhouse, G. M.	165	Yatzynina, K. N.	473
Waterhouse, W. L.	256, 283, 490	Yeager, A. F.	377
Waterman, A. M.	53	Yoh, T.	199
Waterston, J. M.	162, 321	York, H. H.	276
Watson, I. A.	256, 283, 490	Yoshii, H.	159
Watson, R. D.	209	Young, H. C.	178
Weaver, L. E.	30	Young, P. A.	353, 474
Webb, R. A.	508	Young, V. H.	74
Weber, G. F.	206, 232, 237, 238, 395	Younkin, S. G.	263
Wedberg, S. E.	43	Yuan, H. F.	491
Wehmeyer, L. E.	101	Zagallo, A. C.	243, 494
Weimer, J. L.	180	Zaumeyer, W. J.	181, 238, 359, 478
Weindling, R.	14, 155, 196	Zazhurilo, V. K.	251
Wess, F.	335	Zeller, S. M.	30, 259, 462, 532
Welch, A.	362	Zentmyer, G. A.	105, 433
Wellman, F. L.	393, 543	Zillig, H.	439, 479
Werner, H. O.	40	Zycha, H.	509

GENERAL INDEX

AlV acid solution, use of, against *Plasmodiophora brassicae*, 478.

Abaca, see *Musa textilis*.

Abavite, use of, against *Fusarium oxysporum* on lupin, 405; *Mycosphaerella pinodes* on pea, 185.

— E, use of, against *Xanthomonas malvacearum*, 198; as a cotton seed disinfectant, 525.

Abies, *Phacidium infestans* on, in Canada, 508.

—, *Phaeocryptopus gaeumannii* and *Rhabdocline pseudotsugae* on, in Switzerland, 434.

— *alba*, *Fomes hartigii* on, in Austria, 56.

— *balsamea*, abnormality of, in N. America, 355.

—, (?) *Sclerotinia kernerii* on, in Newfoundland, 355.

— *lasiocarpa*, abnormality of, in U.S.A., 355.

Acacia, *Hapalophragmum ponderosum* and *H. tundori* on, in India, 233.

Acaulophage gomphoclada, *A. lasiospora*, and *A. tetraceros* on amoebae, 488.

Acenaphthene, effect of, on tumours of *Bacterium tumefaciens*, 247.

Acer, *Phytophthora cactorum* on, in U.S.A., 394.

— *peninsularicum*, *Pezicula subcarnea* on, in Canada, 54; *Cryptosporiopsis* imperfect stage of, 54.

— *platanoides*, hydrogen fluoride injury to, in Sweden, 151.

— *rubrum*, *Pezicula carnea* on, in Canada, 54; *Cryptosporiopsis* imperfect stage of, 54.

—, *Venturia acerina* on, in U.S.A., 274; *Cladosporium humile* imperfect stage of, 274.

— *saccharinum*, *Eutypella parasitica* on, in Canada, 54.

— *saccharum*, *Phyllosticta hesleriana* on, in U.S.A., 47.

Acetaragallia sanguinolenta transmitting potato yellow dwarf, 263.

Acticic acid a constituent of zinc-meta-arsenite, 358.

—, use of, against *Bacterium tumefaciens* on *Prunus*, 131; *Corynebacterium michiganense*, 353.

Achlya, growth substances in relation to, 342.

Achorion actoni on man in India, 333.

— *formosensis* on man in Japan, 200.

— *schoenleinii* on man in India, 333; in Japan, 200.

Achoras sapota, *Clitocybe tabescens* on, in U.S.A., 497.

—, *Elsinoe lepagei* on, in Brazil, 225.

Achromobacter, fluorescence of, 365.

Acromonium cleoni, synonym of *Syngliocladium cleoni*, 451.

Acrostalagmus aphidum on aphids in the Argentine, 77.

— *bactrosporus* and *A. obovatus* on nematodes in U.S.A., 15.

Actinomyces, antagonism of, to *Colletotrichum gloeosporioides*, 155.

— on man in U.S.A., 525.

—, value of pigmentation for classifying, 214.

— *alni* on alder in Germany, 35.

— *antibioticus*, anti-bacterial substances from, 248.

— *bovis* on man, 15.

— *hominis* on man, 200.

— *scabies*, antagonism of, to *Colletotrichum gloeosporioides*, 155.

— on potato, 156, 217; in Chile, 470; Uruguay, 240; U.S.A., 38, 95, 157, 265, 301, 386, 441, 469; control, 95; factors affecting, 386, 469; genetics of resistance to, 38; legislation against, in Uruguay, 240; *Pnyzia scabiei* in relation to, 441; soil microfauna in relation to, 266; staining technique for detection of, 156, 217; survival of, in soil, 157; varietal reaction to, 38.

Actinomycetes, culture medium for, 502.

Actinomycetin and actinomycin, 248.

Aecidium foeniculi, imperfect stage of *Uromyces graminis*, 303.

— *gossypii* on cotton in U.S.A., 253, 487.

— *montanum* on barberry in India, 539.

Aegilops triuncialis, *Pythium arrhenomanes* on, in U.S.A., 367.

Aerobacter aerogenes, inactivation of tobacco mosaic virus by growth products of, 49.

Agallia constricta transmitting potato yellow dwarf, 36.

Agaricaceae in Denmark, 429; Victoria, 472.

Ageratum conyzoides, banana virus affecting, 88.

Agral, use of, as a spreader, 341.

— II, use of, as a spreader, 136.

Agriotes, see Wireworms.

Agropyron, *Pythium arrhenomanes* on, in U.S.A., 367.

—, *Urocystis occulta* and *U. tritici* can infect, 293.

— *avenaceum*, *Pythium arrhenomanes* on, in U.S.A., 367.

— *caninum*, *Urocystis agropyri* can infect, 293.

— *scabrum*, *Claviceps purpurea* on, in New Zealand, 452.

— *spicatum*, *Septogloewum oxysporum* on, in N. America, 204.

— *trachycaulum*, *Ustilago bullata* on, in U.S.A., 294.

Agrosan, effect of, on wheat seed germination, 482.

—, use of, against *Melampsora lini*, 453; *Sphacelotheca sorghi*, 122; *Ustilago avenae* and *U. kolleri*, 124; *Xanthomonas malvacearum*, 363.

— G, effect of, on wheat germination, 444.

—, use of, against *Pythium* on ginger, 364; as a cotton seed disinfectant, 525.

Agrostis hallii, *Septogloewum oxysporum* on, in N. America, 204.

— *palustris*, *Calonectria graminicola* on, in U.S.A., 142.

— *stolonifera*, *Corticium solani* and *Sclerotinia homoeocarpa* on, in U.S.A., 493.

— *vulgaris*, *Calonectria graminicola*, *Fusarium*, *Typhula*, and *T. itoana* on, in U.S.A., 142. *Ahmadia* in the Punjab, 164.

Alianthus altissima, deficiency symptoms in, 53.

Albizzia, *Botryodiplodia theobromae* on, in Sumatra, 324.

— *julibrissin*, *Phymatotrichum omnivorum* on, in U.S.A., 127.

— *moluccana*, *Cercospora* on, in India, 48.

Alcohol, use of, as a grass seed disinfectant, 372.

Alder (Alnus), *Actinomyces alni* on, in Germany, 35.

—, *Melanconium sphaeroideum* on, in U.S.A., 100.

Aleurites, (?) *Botryosphaeria ribis* on, in Nyasaland, 4.

—, *Corticium stevensii* on, in U.S.A., 206.

—, (?) *Fusarium lateritium* on, in Nyasaland, 4.

[*Aleurites*], *Mycosphaerella aleuritidis* on, in China, 55; synonymy of, 55.

Alfalfa, see *Lucerne*.

Allium cepa, see *Onion*.

Almond (*Prunus amygdalus*), *Bacterium tumefaciens* on, in U.S.A., 130.

—, *Cercospora circumscissa* on, in Iran, 99.

—, *Clasterosporium carpophilum* on, in U.S.A., 338.

—, peach line pattern virosis can infect, 146.

—, peach ring-spot virosis can infect, 85.

—, *Phomopsis* on, in the Argentine, 185.

—, *Sclerotinia laza* on, in U.S.A., 420.

—, *Taphrina deformans* on, in Kenya, 147.

Alnus, see *Alder*.

Alpine Rose, see *Rhododendron*.

Alsike clover, see *Clover*.

Alternaria, decomposition of sulphite liquors by, 278.

— in relation to asthma and hay fever of man, 418; in Cuba, 452; in U.S.A., 16.

— in the air in U.S.A., 290, 370.

— on barley in U.S.S.R., 9.

— on cereals in Canada, 366.

— on cotton in S. Africa, 414; in U.S.A., 14, 253.

— on *Echinocloa crus-galli* in U.S.A., 21; *Anacentrinus deplanatus* in relation to, 21.

— on oak in U.S.A., 272.

— on orange in S. Australia, 124.

— on wheat in Australia, 406; in Canada, 121; in U.S.S.R., 9.

— *brassicae* on cabbage in China, 45.

— on crucifer seed in U.S.A., 246.

— *citri* on orange in China, 45.

— (?)— on papaw in Hawaii, 150.

— *crassa* on *Datura stramonium* in U.S.A., 221.

— *mali* and *A. mali* strain 4 on pear in N. America, 531.

— *oleracea* on crucifer seed in U.S.A., 246.

— *passiflorae* on passion fruit in New S. Wales, 364.

— *radicina* on carrot in England, 360.

— (?) *solani* on *Atropa belladonna* in U.S.A., 222.

— on potato in Chile, 470; Ecuador, 346; India, I; U.S.A., 301; varietal reaction to, 1.

— on tomato in New S. Wales, 309; U.S.A., 126, 230, 269, 354, 432, 440; control, 126, 230, 269, 309; *Epitrix cucumeris* in relation to, 269; factors affecting, 432; technique for estimating infection of, 354.

—, toxicity of copper sulphate to, 422.

— *tenuis* on flax and wooden spools in Germany, 453.

— *tomato* on tomato in Canada, 53.

— *zinniae* on *Zinnia* in Germany, 492.

(?) *Aluminium* excess in bean in New S. Wales, 62.

—, use of, against reclamation disease of oats and rye, 11.

— *formate*, use of, for rot-proofing cotton textiles, 451.

— *nitrate*, use of, against *Pseudoperonospora cubensis*, 117.

Amanita pantherina, auxin requirements of, 390.

Amaranthus, beet 'savoy' disease affecting, in Canada, 399; transmission of, by *Piesma cinerea*, 399.

— *retroflexus*, banana virus affecting, in Brazil, 88.

Ambrosia, *Plasmopara halstedii* on, in U.S.A., 499; spore dispersal of, 499.

— *artemisiifolia*, beet 'savoy' disease affecting, in Canada, 399; transmission of, by *Piesma cinerea*, 399.

Ammonium chloride, use of, against *Venturia pirina*, 377.

— phosphate, toxicity of, to *Phymatotrichum omnivorum*, 75.

— sulphate, toxicity of, to *Phymatotrichum omnivorum*, 75.

— —, use of, against *Venturia inaequalis*, 245; *V. pirina*, 377.

Amomphaea arenaria, *Claviceps purpurea* on, in New Zealand, 452.

— —, *Pythium arrenomanes* on, in U.S.A., 367.

Amoa, O.M., use of, for rot-proofing cotton textiles, 451.

Amoebae, *Acaulopage gomphoclada*, *A. lasiospora*, *A. tetraceros*, *Cochlonema bactrosporum* var. *longius*, *C. euryblastum*, and *Stylopage cephalote* on, 488.

Anacentrinum deplanatus in relation to rots of *Echinocloa crus-galli*, 21.

Ananas comosus, see *Pineapple*.

Andropogon annulatus, *Sphacelia sorghi* on, in India, 485.

— *australis*, *Sclerospora noblei* on, in New S. Wales, 336.

— *caricorum*, *Sphacelia sorghi* on, in India, 485.

— *furcatus*, *Sorosporium everhartii* on, in U.S.A., 205.

— (?) *gryllus*, *Claviceps* on, in India, 206.

Anemone, *Puccinia pruni-spinosae* on, in England, 491; Portugal, 243.

—, *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum* on, in Bermuda, 321.

Anethum graveolens, *Corticium solani* on, in U.S.A., 221.

Angiopspora zeae on maize in Guatemala, Puerto Rico, Santo Domingo, Trinidad, and U.S.A., 73.

Annona cherimola and *A. muricata*, *Clitocybe tabescens* on, in U.S.A., 497.

Anomala orientalis, *Bacillus popilliae* can infect, 78.

Antagonism between fungi and micro-organisms, 1, 13, 76, 91, 155, 162, 178, 443.

Anthemis cotula, potato yellow dwarf can infect, 264.

Anthoxanthum odoratum, *Phyllosticta anthoxella* on, in U.S.A., 203.

Antibacterial substances from micro-organisms, 248.

Antirrhinum, *Myzus persicae* injury to, in U.S.A., 257.

—, pea mottle can infect, 293.

—, *Peronospora antirrhini* on, in New S. Wales, 123.

—, *Phyllosticta antirrhini* on, in Ceylon, 182.

—, *Puccinia antirrhini* on, in Hawaii, 350; Rhodesia, 142; Scotland, 440; S. Africa, 47, 142.

Aonidiella aurantii, *Bacillus C* on, in U.S.A., 78, 332.

Aphanomyces on beet in U.S.A., 60.

— *euteiches* on pea in U.S.A., 60, 127, 245.

Aphanopeltis aequatoriensis on *Sumanea* in Ecuador, 163.

Aphids, *Acrostalagmus aphidum* on, in the Argentine, 77.

—, *Empusa* on, in Spain, 403.

Aphis abbreviata transmitting potato leafroll, 499.

— *gossypii* transmitting *Canna indica* mosaic, 491.

— *maydis* transmitting *Canna indica* mosaic, 491; sugar-cane mosaic, 305.

— *rhamni* transmitting potato virus Y, 302.

Apiole, effect of, on *Bacterium tumefaciens* tumours, 247.

Apium graveolens, see Celery.

Aplanobacter cissicola on *Cissus japonica* in Japan, 491.

— *insidiosum* renamed *Corynebacterium insidiosum* (q.v.), 365.

— *michiganense* renamed *Corynebacterium michiganense* (q.v.), 365.

Apple (*Pyrus malus*), angular leaf spot of, in England caused by *Cercospora sanguinea*, 24.

—, *Armillaria mellea* on, in Spain, 338.

—, *Ascochyta piricola* on, in Iran, 99; *Ascochyta piricola* synonym of, 99.

— bitter pit in Rumania, 405.

—, Bordeaux spray injury to, 212.

—, boron deficiency in, in U.S.A., 529.

—, excess in, in U.S.A., 26.

—, *Botryosphaeria ribis* on, in India, 530.

—, *Botrytis* on, in Switzerland, 457.

—, — *cinerella* on, in England, 420, 459; (?) New S. Wales, 407; U.S.A., 209; Western Australia, 259; control, 209.

— breakdown in Australia, 406; New Zealand, 3; Victoria, 374.

— brown heart in Australia, 406; Victoria, 374.

—, *Ceratostomella ulmi* can infect, 474.

—, *Clitocybe tabescens* on, in U.S.A., 497.

—, *Coniothecium chomatosporum* on, in India, 531.

—, *Corticium salmonicolor* on, in Mauritius, 126; Tanganyika, 282.

—, *Coryneum longistipitatum* on, in Portugal, 243, 495.

— deep scald in Australia, 406.

—, *Diaporthe perniciosa* on, in Southern Rhodesia, 46.

— dimple in Australia, 406.

— diseases in U.S.A., 294.

—, *Dothiorella mali* var. *fructus* on, in U.S.A., 47.

—, effect of sprays on photosynthesis in, 530.

—, *Elsinoe piri* on, in Chile, 443.

—, *Errinia amylovora* on, in U.S.A., 530.

—, *Fabraea maculata* on, in Brazil, 246.

— 'flat limb' in U.S.A., 462; transmission of, to *Pyracantha gibbsii*, 462.

—, *Fusarium lateritium* on, in New Zealand, 3.

—, *Gloeosporium* on, in New S. Wales, 407.

—, *Glomerella cingulata* on, 383, 464; in (?) England, 419; U.S.A., 145, 420, 441; control, 383, 420, 464; types of, 145.

—, *Gymnosporangium juniperi-virginianae* on, in U.S.A., 245.

—, hydrogen fluoride injury to, in Sweden, 151.

— internal breakdown in Switzerland, 457.

— cork in Tasmania, 406.

— Jonathan spot in Australia, 406; New Zealand, 3; Victoria, 374.

—, *Lambertella corni-maris* on, in U.S.A., 337.

— late scald in Australia, 406.

— leaf scorch, see potassium deficiency in.

— lenticel spotting in Switzerland, 457.

—, *Leptothyrium pomi* on, in India, 145.

— moulds on, in Australia, 406; Victoria, 374.

—, *Mucor* on, in Switzerland, 457.

—, *Nectria galligena* on, in Chile, 443; Great Britain, 24, 164; Spain, 338; Sweden, 24.

—, *Penicillium* on, in Switzerland, 457; in U.S.A., 209.

—, — *expansum* on, in India, 458; (?) New S. Wales, 407; U.S.A., 209, 337; control, 209, 458.

—, *Phoma* on, in England, 420.

—, — *pomi* on, in New Zealand, 3.

—, *Phyllosticta solitaria* on, in U.S.A., 441.

[Apple], *Physalospora obtusa* on, in Uruguay, 129; U.S.A., 337.

—, *Podosphaera leucotricha* on, 459; in England, 213; New Zealand, 144, 294; Switzerland, 280; control, 280, 294, 459; varietal reaction to, 144, 213, 280.

—, potassium deficiency in, in U.S.A., 528.

—, *Rhizopus* on, in Switzerland, 457.

— russet, control, 464.

— scald in Australia, 406; Switzerland, 457; U.S.A., 82, 457, 530; control, 82, 457; factors affecting, 457, 530; varietal reaction to, 457.

—, *Schizophyllum commune* on, in New Zealand, 144.

—, *Sclerotinia fructicola* on, in U.S.A., 209, 337.

—, — *fructigena* on, 27; in Germany, 460; Spain, 338.

—, — *laza* on, 27; in Germany, 460.

— soft scald in Uruguay, 129; U.S.A., 295; Victoria, 374.

— sooty blotch in India, 145.

—, *Stereum purpureum* on, in England, 24; New Zealand, 144.

— storage disorders in Australia, 406; Canada, 144; U.S.A., 530.

— *Trichothecium roseum* on, in U.S.A., 209.

—, *Venturia inaequalis* on, 225, 226, 383, 384, 422, 464; in Canada, 294; Eire, 458; England, 213; Germany, 23; Italy, 377; New Zealand, 144, 294; Switzerland, 280, 375; U.S.A., 82, 88, 208, 244, 321, 377, 420, 494, 498; conidial characters of, 226; control, 82, 88, 144, 214, 280, 294, 321, 375, 377, 383, 384, 420, 458, 464, 494, 498; pathogenicity and genetics of, 208; retention of sprays against, 294; synonym of *Spilosticta inaequalis*, 225; toxicity of sulphur to, 422; of copper carbonate to, 376; varietal reaction to, 144, 377, 458, 498.

Apricot (*Prunus armeniaca*), arsenical spray-residue injury to, in U.S.A., 339.

— bacteriosis in New S. Wales, 281.

—, boron deficiency in, in Canada, 210.

—, — excess in, in U.S.A., 26.

—, *Clasterosporium carpophilum* on, in Chile, 443; U.S.A., 338, 339.

— diamond canker in U.S.A., 462.

—, manganese deficiency in, in S. Africa, 467.

—, ring spot in U.S.A., 339.

—, *Sclerotinia fructicola* on, in New S. Wales, 123; U.S.A., 27.

—, — *fructigena* on, in England, 461; Germany, 460.

—, — *laza* on, in England, 461; Germany, 460; U.S.A., 27, 420; varietal reaction to, 460.

— X disease in U.S.A., 339.

Aquilegia, *Pythium de Baryanum* can infect, 292.

Arachis hypogaea, see Groundnut.

— marginata, *Puccinia arachidis* on, in Uruguay, 129.

Araucaria cunninghamii chlorosis in Queensland, 184.

Areca palm (*Areca catechu*), *Ganoderma lucidum* on, in India, 252.

Aristolochia, *Colletotrichum capsici* on, in India, 363; synonymy of, 363.

Armillaria on oak in U.S.A., 272.

— *mellea*, cultural studies on, 56, 59.

—, — factors affecting pathogenicity of, 13.

— on apple in Spain, 338.

— on citrus in New S. Wales, 440.

— on oak in U.S.A., 396.

— on pine in U.S.A., 56.

— on *Pseudotsuga taxifolia* in Canada, 544.

— on raspberry in New Zealand, 29.

[*Armillaria mellea* on spruce in Canada, 57.
 — on walnut in U.S.A., 311.
 —, *Trichoderma viride* antagonistic to, 13.
Arrhenatherum avenaceum, *Septogloewm oxy-sporum* on, in N. America, 204; geographical distribution, host range, and synonymy of, 204.
Arrowroot (*Maranta arundinacea*), *Rosellinia bunodes* on, in W. Indies, 162.
Arsenic, retention of, in spray deposits, 294.
 — salts, use of, as a timber preservative, 315, 509.
 — trioxide, a constituent of zinc-meta-arsenite, 358.
Arsenical spray-residue injury, 339.
Artichoke (*Cynara scolymus*), *Oidiopsis taurica* on, in Spain, 404.
 —, Jerusalem, see *Helianthus tuberosus*.
Ascochyta on lupin in U.S.A., 293.
 — on papaw in Brazil, 88.
 — *citra* on citrus in Venezuela, 324.
 — *imperfecta* on lucerne in Canada, 121; Germany, 336; U.S.A., 528.
 — on *Medicago falcata* and *M. ruthenica* in U.S.A., 528.
 — *magalisa* on lily of the valley in U.S.A., 335.
 — *phaseolorum* on bean and cowpea in China, 45.
 — *pinodella* on pea in the Argentine, 185; U.S.A., 127; Victoria, 438.
 — *piricola* synonym of *Ascochyta piricola*, 99.
 — *pisi* on beans in Venezuela, 360.
 — on lupin in U.S.A., 293.
 — on pea in the Argentine, 185; Victoria, 438.
 — *rabiei* on *Cicer arietinum* in Spain, 403.
Ascochyta piricola on apple in Iran, 99;
Ascochyta piricola synonym of, 99.
Ascomycetes, list of, in Georgia, 100; S. Africa, 47.
Ascu, use of, as a timber preservative, 399.
Ash (*Fraxinus*), *Fomes fraxinophilus* on, in U.S.A., 397.
 —, *Mycosphaerella effigurata* on, in U.S.A., 54; imperfect stages of, 54.
 —, *Nectria galligena* on, in Great Britain, 165.
 —, *Piggotia fraxini* on, in U.S.A., 100.
Asparagus, *Bacterium tumefaciens* on, 444.
 — diseases in Great Britain and U.S.A., 316.
 —, *Fusarium oxysporum* on, in U.S.A., 236.
 —, *Helicobasidium purpureum* on, in Germany, 65.
 —, *Puccinia asparagi* on, 320, 437; in U.S.A., 236; legislation against, in Germany, 320.
 —, *Zopfia rhizophila* on, in Germany, 65.
Aspen (*Populus tremuloides*), *Fomes igniarius* on, in U.S.A., 314.
Aspergillus antagonistic to *Fusarium orthoceras var. ciceri*, 1.
 —, antibacterial substances from, 67, 248.
 —, growth of, in soil, 471.
 — in the air in U.S.A., 16, 290, 370.
 — on cheese, effect of ultra-violet rays on, 80.
 — on *Echinochloa crus-galli* in U.S.A., 21; *Anacentrinus deplanatus* in relation to, 21.
 — on flax in Australia, 370.
 — on man in U.S.A., 525.
 —, thermogenetic capability of, 43.
 — *clavatus*, antibacterial substance produced by, 283.
 — *flavus* on man, 15.
 — on pear in N. America, 531.
 — *fumigatus*, antibacterial substances from, 344.
 —, decomposition of plant material by, 43.
 — in culture, storage of, 89.
 — *fumigatus* on man, 15.
 — on wood pulp in Sweden, 58.
 — *glaucus* group, taxonomy of, 164.
 — in breweries in U.S.A., 153; evaluation of paints against, 153.
 — in culture, storage of, 89.
 — *niger*, effect of, on growth of *Corticium solani* and *Macrophomina phaseoli*, 76.
 —, growth products of, used to inactivate tobacco mosaic virus, 49.
 — in culture, storage of, 89.
 —, mutation of, induced by nitrates, 468.
 — on bread in U.S.A., 342.
 — on cotton in the Argentine, 417.
 — on maize in U.S.A., 72.
 — on man, 15; in Brazil, 254.
 —, sulphur requirements of, 35.
 —, technique for studying growth of, 464.
 —, use of, to estimate copper in soil, 347.
 — *pyri* on pear in N. America, 531.
 — *wentii* in culture, storage of, 89.
Aspergillus caricae on papaw in Brazil, 88; Ecuador, 164; U.S.A., 463; Venezuela, 324.
Asphalt, use of, against *Ceratostomella fimbriata* on *Hevea* rubber, 323; as a wound dressing, 42, 53, 106, 128, 276.
Aspidium aculeatum, *Milesia whitei* on, (?) identified as *Gloeosporium polypodii*, 455.
Asporomyces, non-validity of, 428.
 — *vraei* referred to *Torulopsis pulcherrima*, 428.
Aster, China (*Callistephus chinensis*), yellows on *Nicotiana rustica* and *Vinca rosea* in U.S.A., 257-8; transmission of, by *Macrostelus divisus*, 257.
Atropa belladonna, *Alternaria (?) solani*, *Bacterium solanacearum*, *Corticium solani*, *Fusarium*, *Mycosphaerella*, *Peronospora hyoscyami*, *Phytophthora parasitica*, *Pythium de Baryanum*, *P. irregularare*, *P. ultimum*, *Ramularia*, and *Thielaviopsis basicola* on, in U.S.A., 221-2.
Autoserica castanea, *Bacillus popilliae* can infect, 78.
Auxin content of tomato in relation to *Bacterium tumefaciens*, 186.
Avena, see Oats.
Avocado pear (*Persea americana*), boron excess in, in U.S.A., 26.
 — diseases in U.S.A., 210.
 —, *Phyllachora graminis* on, in Colombia, 99; Ecuador, 163.
 —, *Phytophthora cinnamomi* on, in U.S.A., 149.
Axonopus affinis, phosphorus deficiency in, in U.S.A., 527.
Azalea, see *Rhododendron*.
Azotobacter, bacterization of non-leguminous seed with, 409.
Bacillus, phytopathogenic species of, 282.
 — *brevis*, antibacterial substances from, 248.
 — *C* on *Aspidiella aurantii* in U.S.A., 78, 332.
 — *cacticidus* on *Opuntia* in S. Australia, 366.
 — *lentimoribus* on *Popillia japonica* in U.S.A., 78.
 — *melonis*, taxonomy of, 282.
 — *mesentericus* on flax in Australia, 370.
 — *popilliae* on *Popillia japonica* in U.S.A., 78, 417; hosts of, 78.
 — *simplex*, production of bacteriostatic substances by, 443.
 — *subtilis*, antagonism of, to *Phoma betae*, 178.
Bacteria in relation to *Fusarium* on *Atropa belladonna*, 222.
 — on cotton in relation to boll rot in S. Africa, 415.

[Bacteria] on grasses in U.S.A., 337.
 — on *Cactoblastis cactorum* in Australia, 34.
 Bacterial wilt of tomato in S. Australia, 125.
 Bacteriophage of *Bacterium solanacearum*, 171.
Bacterium albilineans on sugar-cane in Hawaii, 349; Mauritius, 98; Queensland, 304.
 — *cacticorum* on *Cephalocereus senilis* in Italy, 366.
 — *dissolvens*, taxonomy of, 282.
 — *fuscians* renamed *Corynebacterium fascians* (q.v.), 365.
 — *flaccumfaciens* renamed *Corynebacterium flaccumfaciens*, 365.
 — *herbicola* on flax in Australia, 370.
 — *ligustris* on privet in Portugal, 243.
 — *malvacearum*, see Cotton, *Xanthomonas malvacearum* on.
 — *radiobacter*, physiology of, 130.
 — *rathayi* renamed *Corynebacterium rathayi*, 365.
 — *rhizogenes*, physiology of, 130.
 — *sepedonicum* renamed *Corynebacterium sepedonicum* (q.v.), 365.
 — *solanacearum* on *Atropa belladonna* in U.S.A., 221.
 — — — on banana in Venezuela, 324.
 — — — on chilli in U.S.A., 216.
 — — — on *Cyphomandra betacea*, resistance to, 103.
 — — — on *Datura stramonium* in U.S.A., 221.
 — — — on eggplant, 103; in U.S.A., 216.
 — — — on *Hyoscyamus niger* in U.S.A., 221.
 — — — on potato in U.S.A., 216.
 — — — on tobacco in Java, 227.
 — — — on tomato in Ceylon, 66; Japan, 171; Java, 102; U.S.A., 217; Victoria, 91; bacteriophage of, 171; control, 102; physiologic study on, 91; varietal reaction to, 66.
 — — — testing Solanaceous plants for resistance to, 102.
 — — — *syringae* var. *capsici* on chilli in Italy, 426.
 — — — *tumefaciens* as food for soil protozoa, 283.
 — — — can infect *Datura tatula* and *Pelargonium zonale*, 444.
 — — — gall production by, bacterium free tissues in relation to, 6; effect of chemicals on, 247, 266.
 — — — on almond in U.S.A., 130.
 — — — on asparagus and bean, 444.
 — — — on beet in Rumania, 405.
 — — — on *Bryophyllum pinnatum*, factors affecting, 247.
 — — — on cacao in Colombia, 7.
 — — — on *Chrysanthemum frutescens*, 247, 444.
 — — — on cotton in the Argentine, 417.
 — — — on dahlia, 444.
 — — — on *Daphne mezereum* in Germany, 444.
 — — — on *Kalanchoe daigremontiana*, factors affecting, 247.
 — — — on peach in U.S.A., 130, 378.
 — — — on raspberry in New Zealand, 29.
 — — — on sunflower, 6.
 — — — on *Tagetes patula*, factors affecting, 247.
 — — — on tomato, 67, 186, 541; in England, 36; control, 36; growth substances in relation to, 67, 186; micrurgical study on, 541.
 — — — on vine in U.S.A., 318.
 (?) — — — on walnut in Spain, 403.
 — — — physiology of, 130.
 — — — polysaccharide produced by, 409.
 Bacterization, review of literature on, 409.
 Banana (*Musa spp.*), bacterial heart rot of, in Jamaica, 241.
 —, *Bacterium solanacearum* on, in Venezuela, 324.
 [Banana] bunchy top in New S. Wales, 149; the Philippines, 535; legislation against, in New S. Wales, 149.
 —, *Cercospora musae* on, in Central America, 497; Cuba and Honduras, 352; Jamaica, 148, 242, 381; New S. Wales, 123; Trinidad, 281; Venezuela, 324, 351; control, 123, 148, 242, 381; legislation against in Colombia, 279.
 —, *Clitocybe tabescens* on, in U.S.A., 497; host range of, 497.
 —, *Colletotrichum* on, in Queensland, 87.
 — fruit stalk rot in Jamaica, 242.
 —, *Fusarium* on, in Australia, 31.
 —, — — *oxysporum* var. *cubense* on, in India, 440; Jamaica, 241, 340, 534; St. Lucia, 534; Trinidad, 534; Venezuela, 324; breeding against, 534; control, 340; varietal reaction to, 440.
 —, *Gloeosporium* on, in Queensland, 87.
 —, — — *musarum* on, in Australia, 31; Queensland, 184; Venezuela, 324.
 —, infectious chlorosis of, in the Philippines, 525.
 —, *Nigrospora sphaerica* on, in Australia, 31.
 —, *Scolecotrichum musae* on, in Venezuela, 324.
 —, *Stachyldium theobromae* on, in Venezuela, 324.
 —, virus disease of, in Brazil, 87; host range of, 88; transmission of, by *Pentalonnia nigroviriosa*, 88.
 Barbak-C, use of, against maize seedling diseases, 327.
Barbarea vulgaris, potato yellow dwarf affecting, in U.S.A., 204.
 Barberry (*Berberis*), *Aecidium montanum* and *Puccinia droogensis* on, in India, 539.
 —, *Puccinia graminis* on, 445; in Iran, 99.
 Barley (*Hordeum*), *Alternaria* on, in U.S.S.R., 9.
 —, *Claviceps purpurea* on, in New Zealand, 452.
 — diseases, control, 187.
 —, *Erysiphe graminis* on, in U.S.A., 329, 383.
 —, *Fusarium* on, 10; in Canada, 366; method for detecting, 10.
 —, *Gibberella zabbixinii* on, in U.S.A., 70, 326; toxicity of, to pigs, 70.
 —, *Helminthosporium* on, in the Argentine, 246.
 —, — *gramineum* on, in the Argentine, 518; U.S.A., 445.
 —, — *sativum* on, in the Argentine, 518; Canada, 366; U.S.S.R., 9.
 —, — *terae* on, in Canada, 366; U.S.A., 329.
 —, *Phoma terrestris* can infect, 118.
 —, *Pythium aristosporum* on, in U.S.A., 367.
 —, — *hypogynum* on, in U.S.A., 69.
 —, *Rhynchosporium seculis* on, in the Argentine, 246; England, 154.
 —, *Ustilago hordei* on, 383; in the Argentine, 247, 518; U.S.A., 10, 522; a non-pathogenic hybrid variant of, 522; control, 383, 518; varietal reaction to, 247.
 —, — *nigra* on, in U.S.A., 522; a non-pathogenic hybrid variant of, 522.
 —, — *nuda* on, in the Argentine, 518; Germany, 252; U.S.A., 445, 484; breeding against, 484; control, 518; male-sterility in relation to, 445.
 —, wheat mosaic, winter, affecting, in U.S.S.R., 251.
 Basicop, use of, against *Coccomyces hemicalia*, 148, 443.
 Basidiomycetes in termites' nests in Madagascar, 333.
 Bassilite, use of, as a timber preservative, 277.
Basidiosporeum on *Echinocllea crus-galli* in U.S.A., 21; *Anacentrinus deplanatus* in relation to, 21.
 Basswood (*Tilia americana*), *Phlyctaena tiliæ* on, in U.S.A., 47.

Beans, (?) aluminium excess in, in New S. Wales, 62.
 —, *Ascochyta phaseolorum* on, in China, 45.
 —, —, *pisi* on, in Venezuela, 360.
 —, *Bacterium tumefaciens* on, 444.
 —, bean virus 2 on, 90; in Brazil, 115; Tanganyika, 180.
 —, boron deficiency in broad, in S. Australia, 125.
 —, — excess in, in U.S.A., 26.
 —, *Botrytis cinerea* on, in Bermuda, 321; England, 62.
 —, *Cercospora canescens* and *C. columnare* on, in Venezuela, 360.
 —, *Colletotrichum lindemuthianum* on, in Chile, 443; Switzerland, 497; U.S.A., 387; Venezuela, 360; varietal reaction to, 360.
 —, *Corticium microsclerotia* on, in (?) the Philippines, 67; Venezuela, 360.
 —, — *solani* on, in Venezuela, 360.
 —, diseases of, in U.S.A., 316.
 —, dwarf mosaic, see bean virus 2 on.
 —, *Erysiphe polygoni* on, in U.S.A., 382; Venezuela, 360.
 —, foliar variegation in, in U.S.A., 359.
 —, *Fusarium martii* on, in Chile, 443.
 —, iron excess in, in New S. Wales, 62.
 —, leaf wilt virus affecting *Lathyrus pusillus*, 388; transmission of, by *Myzus persicae*, 388.
 —, lucerne mosaic can infect, 516.
 —, magnesium deficiency in, in New S. Wales, 62.
 —, manganese deficiency in, in South Africa, 467.
 —, — excess in, in New S. Wales, 62.
 —, mosaic of, in Brazil, 115; U.S.A., 112, 245; Venezuela, 360; genetics of resistance to, 112; varietal reaction to, 115, 245, 360.
 —, — virus 4 of, in U.S.A., 478.
 —, pea mottle can infect, 293.
 —, *Pseudomonas medicaginis* var. *phaseolicola* on, in Germany, 512; Switzerland, 495; U.S.A., 358.
 —, *Sclerotium rolfsii* on, in Venezuela, 360.
 —, seed certification, 184.
 —, sun scorch of, in Tanganyika, 180.
 —, *Uromyces appendiculatus* on, 181; in New S. Wales, 244; Switzerland, 497; Venezuela, 360; breeding against, 181; control, 244, 497; physiologic races of, 181; varietal reaction to, 244, 360.
 —, — *fabae* on broad, in Brazil, 246; Chile, 443; Iran, 99.
 —, *Xanthomonas phaseoli* on, in Spain, 243.
 —, yellow necrosis virus of, affecting *Sesbania macrocarpa*, 388; transmission of, to pea and soy-bean, 388.
Beauveria on *Cactoblastis cactorum* in Australia, 34.
 —, *bassiana* on *Popillia japonica*, method for obtaining spores of, 253.
 —, —, *B. densa*, and *B. globulifera* on silkworms in Italy, 289.
Beech (Fagus), *Fomes fomentarius* on, in U.S.A., 475-6.
 —, *Phytophthora cactorum* on, in U.S.A., 394.
Beet (Beta vulgaris), *Aphanomyces* on, in U.S.A., 60.
 —, *Bacterium tumefaciens* on, in Rumania, 405.
 —, boron deficiency in, 266, 400; occurrence in Rumania, 406; U.S.A., 114, 426, 442; molybdenum in relation to, 266.
 —, canker in U.S.A., 23.
 —, *Cercospora beticola* on, in Canada, 400; Rumania, 405; Spain, 404; U.S.A., 114, (?) 178, 358, 400; breeding against, 400; control, 178, 358; varietal reaction to, 114.
 [Beet], *Corticium solani* on, in Canada, 400; New S. Wales, 244; U.S.A., 178, 400, 511; breeding against, 400; control, 178.
 —, curly top in Canada, 400; U.S.A., 230, 316, 400, 477, 510; breeding against, 231, 400; control, 230; transmission of, by *Eutettix tenellus*, 230, 477, 511; varietal reaction to, 316.
 —, diseases in Great Britain, 316.
 —, effect of *Trichoderma viride* in soil on, 220.
 —, *Fusarium merismoides* on, in Germany, 113.
 —, 'glassiness', molybdenum in relation to, 266.
 —, *Helicobasidium purpureum* on, in Germany, 65.
 —, internal breakdown, see boron deficiency.
 —, late black rot of, in U.S.A., 178.
 —, manganese deficiency in, in England, 468.
 —, mosaic in Rumania, 405.
 —, nitrogen deficiency in, in U.S.A., 237.
 —, *Peronospora schachtii* on, in U.S.A., 317; U.S.S.R., 237.
 —, *Phoma betae* on, 178; U.S.A., 178, 510; effect of boric acid and sodium tetraborate on, 178.
 —, phosphorus deficiency in, in U.S.A., 278.
 —, *Pythium* on, in U.S.A., 60, 178, 510.
 —, — *de Baryanum* on, in U.S.A., 178.
 —, *Ramularia beticola* on, in Canada, 121; U.S.A., 237.
 —, *Rhizoctonia* on, in U.S.A., 60, 510, 511.
 —, savoy disease of, in Canada and U.S.A., 399; transmission of, by *Piesma cinerea*, 399; wild hosts of, 399.
 —, *Sclerotium rolfsii* on, in U.S.A., 138, 358, 399.
 —, *Septoria betae* on, in Canada, 121.
 —, sulphur deficiency of, in U.S.A., in relation to *Ramularia beticola*, 237.
 —, *Uromyces betae* on, in Rumania, 405; Spain, 404.
 —, yellows in New Zealand, 2; virus of, affecting mangold in New Zealand, 2.
Begonia, *Pythium de Baryanum* on, 292; in U.S.A., 526.
 —, — *splendens* on, in U.S.A., 526.
 —, — *ultimo* on, in U.S.A., 526; hosts of, 526.
 —, *Xanthomonas begoniae* on, in Portugal, 243; U.S.A., 5.
Bemisia gossypiperda transmitting *Hibiscus esculentus* yellow vein mosaic and Lima bean yellow mosaic, 342; tobacco pseudo-peh sim, 473; tomato rugose mosaic, 342.
Bentonite, use of, as an adhesive, 321; as a filler, 179, 230.
Benzoinic acid, toxicity of, to butter moulds, 334.
Benzol, toxicity of, to *Sclerotium rolfsii*, 127; use of, against *Peronospora tabacina*, 505.
Berberis, see Barberry.
Bersim clover, see Clover.
Beta vulgaris, see Beet, Mangold.
Betel nut, see Areca.
Betulaceae, mycorrhiza of, 313.
Bignonia capreolata, *Leptostromella bignoniae* on, in U.S.A., 47.
Birch (Betula), *Fomes fomentarius* on, in U.S.A., 475-6.
 —, *Melampsoridium betulinum* on, in Portugal, 243.
 —, *Phytophthora cactorum* on, in U.S.A., 394.
 —, *Trametes serialis* on, in U.S.A., 397.
Blackberry (Rubus spp.), boron excess in, in U.S.A., 26.
 —, diseases in U.S.A., 148.

Blastomyces dermatitidis on man, (?) 15; in U.S.A., 488; serology of, 370; synonymy of, 489.

Blastomyces tulasensis synonym of *Blastomyces dermatitidis*, 489.

Bleaching powder, use of, against *Corticium solani* on potato, 263; sooty blotch and fly speck of apple, 145; *Xanthomonas campestris* on *Matthiola incana*, 291.

Blueberry, see *Vaccinium*.

Boehmeria nivea, *Cercospora krugiana* on, in Brazil, 246.

Boletus bovinus on pine forming mycorrhiza in England, 298.

— on spruce forming mycorrhiza in Swedish soil in England, 299.

— *elegans* on larch forming mycorrhiza, 388.

— *felleus* on evergreens forming mycorrhiza in U.S.A., 443.

— *granulatus*, auxin requirements of, 390.

— on pine forming mycorrhiza in Sweden, 389.

— *luteus*, auxin requirements of, 390.

— on pine forming mycorrhiza in Sweden, 389.

— *piperatus*, auxin requirements of, 390.

— *tropicus*, relation of, to *Pseudococcus* on citrus, 414.

— *variegatus*, auxin requirements of, 390.

— (?) *viscidus* on larch forming mycorrhiza, 389.

Bombyx, see Silkworms.

Borax, effect of, on growth of apple trees, 529.

—, use of, against apple internal cork, 406; beet canker, 23, 426; beet internal breakdown, 114; boron deficiency in beet, 442; celery, 23, 64, 442; crucifers, 317; lucerne, 22, 23; tomato, 310; cauliflower hollow heart, 426; lucerne yellows, 143; *Melampsora lini*, 256, 291; swede brown heart, 426.

Bordeaux mixture, adhesives and spreaders for, in Dutch E. Indies, 341.

—, effect of, on transpiration and photosynthesis of apple leaves, 207; of proteins on toxicity of, 424.

— injury, 129, 149, 212, 244, 420.

— paint injury, 54.

—, use of, as a wound dressing, 106, 276.

Bordinette, use of, against *Cercospora sesami* on sesame, 427.

Bordo-fix, use of, against *Venturia inaequalis*, 377.

— Xex, see Copper oxychloride.

Boric acid, effect of, on *Phoma betae*, 178.

—, use of, against boron deficiency in apricot, 210; cauliflower, 510; crucifers, 317; kohlrabi, 510; lucerne, 23; potato sickness, 219.

Boron as a plant nutrient, bibliography of, 467.

— deficiency in apple in U.S.A., 529; apricot in Canada, 210; beet, 266, 400; in Rumania, 405; U.S.A., 114, 426, 442; broad bean in S. Australia, 125; cantaloupe in U.S.A., 438; cauliflower, 510; U.S.A., 113, 426; celery in U.S.A., 23, 442; crucifers, 317; kohlrabi, 510; lettuce, molybdenum in relation to, 317; lucerne in Germany, 336; U.S.A., 22, 23, 143, 494; opium poppy, 471; pine in Australia, 407; plants, review on, 43; plum in relation to little leaf in S. Australia, 125, 407; potato, 219; raspberry in Canada, 296; sunflower in U.S.A., 536; swede in U.S.A., 113, 426; tomato in Canada and U.S.A., 310; turnip, calcium nutrition in relation to, 60.

— excess in fruit and other trees, and beans in U.S.A., 26.

Bothriochloa, *Claviceps pusilla* on, in New S. Wales, 244.

Botryodiplodia theobromae on *Albizzia* in Sumatra, 324.

— on cacao in (?) Colombia, 7; Venezuela, 324.

— on *Hevea* rubber in Dutch E. Indies, 42; Sumatra, 323.

— on tea in Sumatra, 324.

(?) *Botryosphaeria ribis* on *Aleurites* in Nyasaland, 4.

— on apple in India, 530.

— on cassava in Bermuda, 321.

— on citron, citrus, lemon, lime, and orange in Brazil, 524.

Botrytis on apple in Switzerland, 457.

— on cherry in U.S.A., 532.

— on clover in U.S.A., 527.

— on pear in Switzerland, 457.

— on pine in U.S.A., 174.

— on strawberry in U.S.A., 463.

— *allii*, use of, in tests of fungicides, 150.

— *cinerea* on apple in England, 420, 459; (?) New S. Wales, 407; U.S.A., 209; Western Australia, 259; control, 209.

— on bean in England, 62.

— on broad bean in Bermuda, 321.

— on celery in Canada, 468.

(?) — on iris in Great Britain, 81.

— on lettuce in England, 479.

— on orange in the Philippines, 66.

— on pear in N. America, 531.

— on wort in U.S.A., 153; evaluation of paints against, 153.

— *tulipae* on tulip, 384; in the Argentine, 139.

Bouteloua aristidoides and *B. barbata*, (?) *Puccinia boutelouae* on, in U.S.A., 253.

— *curtipendula* and *B. gracilis*, *Pythium arrhenomanes* on, in U.S.A., 367.

Brachypodium sylvaticum, *Claviceps* on, in India, 206.

—, *Pythium arrhenomanes* on, in U.S.A., 367.

Brachysporium on *Echinochloa crus-galli* in U.S.A., 21; *Anacentrinus deplanatus* in relation to, 21.

Bramble, see Blackberry.

Brassica alba, see Mustard.

— *napobrassica*, see Swede.

— *nigra*, see Mustard.

— *oleracea*, see Broccoli, Brussels sprouts, Cabbage, Cauliflower.

— var. *caulo-rapa*, see Kohlrabi.

— *rapa*, see Turnip.

Brassisan, use of, against *Plasmiodiphora brassicae*, 177.

Bread, *Aspergillus niger*, *Monilia sitophila*, *Penicillium stoloniferum*, and *Rhizopus nigricans* on, in U.S.A., 341-2.

Bremia lactucae on lettuce in England, 479.

Brinjal, see Eggplant.

Briosia azaleae, *Periconia azaleae* and *Sporocybe azaleae* synonyms of, 47.

Broad bean, see Beans.

Broccoli (*Brassica oleracea*), *Xanthomonas campestris* on, in Bermuda, 321.

Bromus, *Pseudomonas coronafaciens* var. *purpurea* on, in Canada, 122.

—, *Pythium arrhenomanes* on, in U.S.A., 367.

—, *Stagonospora bromi* on, in U.S.A., 493.

— *arvensis*, 'bends' disease of, in U.S.A., 493.

— *catharticus*, *Ustilago bullata* on, in U.S.A., 294.

— *ciliatus*, *Septogloea oxysporum* on, in N. America, 204.

[*Bromus*] *inermis*, *Claviceps purpurea* on, in New Zealand, 452.
 — —, *Selenophoma bromigena* on, in Canada and U.S.A., 144.
 — —, yellow mosaic of, in U.S.A., 371.
 — —, *japonicus*, 'bends' disease of, in U.S.A., 493.
 — —, *marginatus*, *Ustilago bullata* on, in U.S.A., 294.
 — —, *mollis*, *B. secalinus* var. *velutinus*, and *B. tectorum* var. *glabratus*, 'bends' disease of, in U.S.A., 493.
 — —, *unioloides*, *Scolecotrichum graminis* var. *brachypoda* on, in Uruguay, 129.
 — —, *Ustilago bromivora* on, in S. Australia, 493.
 Broom corn, see Sorghum.
Bryophyllum pinnatum, *Bacterium tumefaciens* on, 247.
 Buckthorn, see *Rhamnus*.
Bulgaria inquinans on oak in U.S.A., 272.
 Buller's phenomenon, 301.
 Bulrush millet, see *Pennisetum typhoides*.
 Butter, *Candida albicans* and *Fusarium lactis* in, in Germany, 334.
 —, moulds in, in Canada, 79, 255.
 —, *Oospora lactis* in, in Canada, 255; Germany and U.S.A., 334.
 —, *Penicillium commune* in, in Germany, 334.
 —, yeasts in, effect on keeping quality of, in Canada, 79.
Byssochlamys fulva on bottled fruit, 206.
 Cabbage (*Brassica oleracea*), *Alternaria brassicae* on, in China, 45.
 — —, *Fusarium conglutinans* on, in U.S.A., 341.
 — —, *Mycosphaerella brassicicola* on, in Ecuador, 163.
 — —, *Peronospora parasitica* on, spore dispersal in, 499.
 — —, *Plasmodiophora brassicae* on, in England, 177; U.S.A., 442.
 Cabuyao, see Citrus.
 Cacao (*Theobroma cacao*), *Bacterium tumefaciens* on, in Colombia, 7.
 — —, *Botryodiplodia theobromae* on, in (?) Colombia, 7; Venezuela, 324.
 — —, *Colletotrichum* and *Corticium salmonicolor* on, in Colombia, 6.
 — 'die-back' in Colombia, 7; Gold Coast, 409.
 — —, *Marasmius perniciosus* on, in Trinidad and Tobago, 281; Venezuela, 324.
 — —, *Monilia roreri* on, in (?) Colombia, 7; Venezuela, 324.
 — —, 'palm' disease of, in Colombia, 7.
 — —, *Phytophthora palmivora* on, in Colombia, 6; Venezuela, 324.
 — root rot in Colombia, 6.
 — —, *Rosellinia paraguayensis* and *R. pepo* on, in W. Indies, 162.
 — swollen shoot in the Gold Coast, 409; legislation against, in the Gold Coast, 544.
Cactoblastis cactorum, fungus parasites of, in Australia, 34.
 — — in relation to *Opuntia* bacterial rots, 34.
Cadophora on walnut in U.S.A., 311.
Cajanus cajan, see Pigeon pea.
Calanagrostis inexpectans, *Septogloea oxysporum* on, in N. America, 204.
Calamintha chinensis, *Plasmopara calaminthae* on, in China, 45.
Catcium, effect of, on white tip of rice, 128.
 — in relation to boron deficiency in turnip, 60; to tomato blossom-end rot, 541.
 — arsenate, use of, with fungicides, 294, 318.
 — arsenite, use of, against *Sclerotinia laza* on stone fruit, 420.
 [Calcium] mono-, use of, against *Corticium* on fig, 297.
 — boron ratio in relation to boron deficiency, 43.
 — cascinate, use of, as an adhesive, 341; as a spreader, 287.
 — cyanamide, fungicidal action of, 384.
 — —, use of, against *Sclerotinia fructicola* on plum, 146.
 — deficiency in *Ailanthes altissima*, 53; cantaloupe in U.S.A., 438; *Catalpa speciosa*, 53; clover, 300; elm, 53; *Lespedeza* in U.S.A., 337; *Philodendron* (?) *giganteum* in U.S.A., 20.
 — 8-hydroxyquinolate, use of, against X disease of peach, 296.
 — hypochlorite, use of, against *Corticium solani* on potato, 263; as a grass seed disinfectant, 372.
 — propionate, use of, against moulds in bread, 342; cheese, 256; cream, 80.
 — sulphate, use of, against reclamation disease of oats and rye, 11.
Callistephus chinensis, see Aster, China.
Calo-clor, use of, against *Helminthosporium* (?) *sacchari*, 350.
Caloneuria graminicola on *Agrostis palustris* and *A. vulgaris* in U.S.A., 142-3.
Calophyllum inophyllum var. *tacamaha*, *Haplographium* on, in Mauritius, 126.
Calostilbe striispora on *Erythrina glauca* in Trinidad, 281.
Calyptospora goeppertiana on *Vaccinium vitis-idaea* in Sweden, 350.
Camellia sinensis, see Tea.
Campanotus, *Entomophthora coronata* on, in S. Africa, 15.
Candida, air-borne spores of, in relation to asthma and hay fever of man in U.S.A., 16.
 — *albicans* in butter in Germany, 334.
 — — on man, 15, 370; in Australia, 369; Canada, 369; Germany, 78; Scotland, 138.
 — —, serological study on, in U.S.A., 452.
 — —, *flaveri* on man in Germany, 79.
 — —, *parakrusei* on man in U.S.A., 139.
 — — and *C. stellatoidea*, serological study on, in U.S.A., 452.
 — —, *suaveolens* on man, 526.
 — —, *tropicalis* on man in Germany, 79; U.S.A., 525.
 — —, serological study on, in U.S.A., 452.
 — —, *vulgaris* on flax in Germany, 453.
 (?) — — on man in U.S.A., 525.
Canna edulis, *Canna indica* mosaic can infect, 491.
 — — *indica* mosaic in the Philippine Islands, 491; transmission of, by *Aphis gossypii* and *A. maidis*, 491; to *C. edulis* and *Musa textilis*, 491.
Cantaloupe (*Cucumis melo*), deficiency diseases of, in U.S.A., 438.
 — —, *Erysiphe cichoracearum* on, in U.S.A., 4.
 — —, *Fusarium bulbigenum* var. *niveum* f. 2 on, in U.S.A., 438.
 — —, *Phoma terrestris* can infect, 118.
Capitophorus fragariae transmitting strawberry yellow edge, 379.
 — —, *potentillae* transmitting strawberry yellow edge and crinkle, 379.
 — —, *tetraphodius* transmitting strawberry crinkle, 386.
Capnodium on cotton in the Argentine, 417.
 — —, relation of, to *Pseudococcus* on citrus, 414.
Caprella bursa-pastoris, potato yellow dwarf affecting, in U.S.A., 264.

Capsicum annuum, *C. baccatum*, *C. frutescens*, and their varieties, and *C. minimum*, see Chilli.

Caragana arborescens, *Septoria caraganae* on, in Rumania, 405.

Carbolic acid, toxicity of, to *Fusarium oxysporum* var. *cubense*, 340.

Carbolineum, use of, against citrus gummosis, 128; *Venturia inaequalis*, 375.

— plantarum, use of, as a wound dressing, 42.

—, Rutger's non-emulsible, use of, against *Ceratostomella fimbriata* on *Hevea* rubber, 323.

—, soluble, use of, against *Clasterosporium carpophilum* on stone fruits, 280.

Carbon dioxide, use of, against apple scald, 82.

— disulphide, toxicity of, to *Sclerotium rolfsii*, 127.

— tetrachloride, toxicity of, to *Sclerotium rolfsii*, 127.

Cardamom (*Elettaria cardamomum*) mosaic in India, 464; legislation against, in India, 464.

Cardinus benedictus, *Sclerotium rolfsii* on, in U.S.A., 221.

Carica papaya, see Papaw.

Carnation (*Dianthus caryophyllus*), *Didymellina dianthi* on, in New Zealand, 2.

—, *Fusarium equiseti* and *F. scirpi* var. *acuminatum* on, in the Argentine, 200.

—, *Phytonomas caryophylli* on, in U.S.A., 325.

—, *Septoria dianthi* on, in Venezuela, 324.

—, sleepiness in Canada, 418.

—, *Uromyces caryophyllinus* on, in Venezuela, 324.

Carnegiea gigantea, *Erwinia carnegieana* on, in U.S.A., 365, 518.

Carrot (*Daucus carota*), *Alternaria radicina* on, in England, 360.

—, beet savoy disease affecting, in Canada, 399; transmission of, by *Piesma cinerea*, 399.

— diseases in England, 112; U.S.A., 316.

—, *Helicobasidium purpureum* on, in Germany 65.

—, *Phoma terrestris* can infect, 118.

—, *Uromyces graminis* can infect, 303.

Carthamus tinctorius, see Safflower.

Carya, see Hickory.

— *pecan*, see Pecan.

Casale's solution, use of, against *Plasmopara viticola*, 402.

Casein, use of, as a spreader, 111.

Cassava (*Manihot utilissima*), *Botryosphaeria ribis* on, in Bermuda, 321.

— brown streak and mosaic in E. Africa, 241.

—, *Cercospora henningsii* on, in Jamaica, 242.

—, *Phytonomas manhotis* on, in U.S.A., 325.

—, *Uromyces janiphae* on, in Ecuador, 163.

Cassia, *Corticium salmonicolor* on, in Mauritius, 126.

Castanea, see Chestnut.

Casuarina lepidophloia, *Clitocybe tabescens* on, in U.S.A., 486.

Catalpa speciosa, deficiency symptoms in, 53.

—, *Oidiopsis taurica* on, in Iran, 99.

Cattle poisoning by *Claviceps paspali* on *Paspalum distichum*, 22.

Cauliflower (*Brassica oleracea*), boron deficiency in, 510; U.S.A., 113, 426.

—, *Phoma terrestris* can infect, 118.

—, *Plasmiodiophora brassicae* on, in England, 177.

Cecropia palmata, *Clitocybe tabescens* on, in U.S.A., 497.

Cedar (*Cedrus*), (?) *Puccinia coronata* on, in Canada, 544.

Celeriac, see Celery.

Celery (*Apium graveolens*), boron deficiency in, in Canada, 63; in U.S.A., 23, 442.

—, *Botrytis cinerea* on, in Canada, 468.

—, copper deficiency in U.S.A., 442.

—, lucerne mosaic affecting, in U.S.A., 513.

—, cracked stem of, see boron deficiency in.

— diseases in U.S.A., 316.

—, 'heart atrophy' of, see boron deficiency in.

— mosaic, antagonism of, to tobacco mosaic, 268.

—, western, in U.S.A., 4.

—, *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum* on, in Canada, 468.

—, *Septoria apii* on, in England, 35; Switzerland, 497.

—, — *apii-graveolentis* on, structure and germination of spores of, 427.

Cenchrus, *Sorosporium syntherismae* on, in U.S.A., 20.

Cenococcum graniforme, auxin requirements of, 390.

Centrosema pubescens, (?) *Corticium solani* on, in Sumatra, 324.

Cephaelurus mycoidea on tea in India, 391; taxonomy of, 392.

Cephalocereus senilis, *Bacterium cacticorum* on, in Italy, 366.

Cephalosporium on oak in U.S.A., 272.

— on pear in N. America, 531.

— *acremonium* on fig in U.S.A., 31.

— — on maize in U.S.A., 367.

— *balanoides* on nematodes in U.S.A., 15.

— *cinnamomeum* on *Nephthytis afzelii* in U.S.A., 335.

— *dieffenbachiae* on *Dieffenbachia picta* in U.S.A., 335.

Cephalothecium on *Echinochloa crus-galli* in U.S.A., 21; *Anacentrinus deplanatus* in relation to, 21.

Ceratophorum setosum on lupins, 293.

Ceratostomella on timber in Canada, Scandinavia, and U.S.A., 177.

— *coerulea* on timber, control and factors affecting, 435.

— *fimbriata* on *Hevea* rubber in Sumatra, 323.

— on sweet potato in U.S.A., 515.

— *ips* on timber, 435; in U.S.A., 175.

— *paradoxa* on pineapple in Venezuela, 324.

— *pilifera* on timber, 435; in U.S.A., 175.

— *pluriannulata* on timber, 435; in U.S.A., 175.

— *radicicola* on date palm in U.S.A., 13, 195; *Chalaropsis* imperfect stage of, 13.

— *ulmi* on elm, 54, 273; in England, 234; U.S.A., 104, 106, 231, 433, 474; apple in relation to, 474; *Hyulgopinus* in relation to, 106; insects in relation to, 104; occluded infections of, 433; *Scolytus* in relation to, 106, 273, 433, 475; specific reaction to, 54; toxin of, 433.

Cercopis sanguinea the cause of apple angular leaf spot in England, 24.

Cercospora, loss of sporulation in, 305.

— on clover in U.S.A., 527.

— on *Grevillea robusta* in India, 48.

— on orchid in Puerto Rico, 202.

— on papaw in Brazil, 88.

— on *Solanum torvum* in Java, 103.

— on vine in U.S.A., 318.

— *aleuritidis* imperfect stage of *Mycosphaerella aleuritidis*, 55.

— *arachidicola* on groundnut in U.S.A., 65, 126, 402.

— *atricincta* on *Zinnia* in Venezuela, 324.

— *beticola* on beet in Canada, 400; Rumania, 405; Spain, 404; U.S.A., 114, (?) 178, 358,

400; breeding against, 400; control, 178, 358; varietal reaction to, 114.

[*Cercospora*] *bolleana* on fig in Hawaii, 350.

— *brachypus* imperfect stage of *Mycosphaerella angulata*, 239.

— on vine in U.S.A., 64; *Mycosphaerella* the perfect stage of, 64.

— *brunkei* on *Pelargonium zonale* in Venezuela, 324.

— *canescens* on beans in Venezuela, 360.

— *carthami* on safflower in the Philippines, 47.

— *chrysanthemi* on *Chrysanthemum* in the Philippines, 47.

— *circumscissa* on almond in Iran, 99.

— *coffeicola* on coffee in Venezuela, 324.

— *columnare* on beans and *Phaseolus lunatus* in Venezuela, 360.

— *cruenta* on cowpea in Venezuela, 360.

— *cucurbitae* on squash in the Philippines, 47.

— *erythrinae* on *Erythrina* in Colombia, 8.

— *fusca* on pecan in Brazil, 246.

— *halesiae* on *Halesia carolina* in U.S.A., 47.

— *henningsii* on cassava in Jamaica, 242.

— *hydrangeana* on *Hydrangea hortensis* in the Philippines, 47.

— *kaki* on *Diospyros lotus* in Iran, 99.

— *krugiana* on *Boehmeria nivea* in Brazil, 246.

— *lathyrina* on pea and sweet pea in U.S.A., 180.

— *leucothoae* on *Leucothoe catesbeiae* in U.S.A., 20.

— *longipes* on sugar-cane in Cuba, 99; Venezuela, 324.

— *medicaginis* on *Medicago arabica* in Uruguay, 129.

— *melonis* on cucumber in Germany, 116.

— *microsora*, *Mycosphaerella microsora* perfect stage of, 306.

— *musaie* on banana in Central America, 497; Cuba and Honduras, 352; Jamaica, 148, 242, 381; New S. Wales, 123; Trinidad, 281; Venezuela, 324, 351; control, 123, 148, 242, 381; legislation against, in Colombia, 279.

— *nicotianae* on tobacco in Ecuador, 164.

— *oryzae* on rice in U.S.A., 128; Venezuela, 324.

— *pachypus* on sunflower in the Philippines, 47.

— *personata* on groundnut in Jamaica, 242; U.S.A., 65, 126, 361, 402; control, 65, 126, 402.

— *punicae* on pomegranate in Iran, 99.

— *sesami* on sesame in U.S.A., 44; Venezuela, 351, 427.

— *setariicola* on *Setaria lutescens* in U.S.A., 493.

— *sorghii* on maize in the Philippines, 47.

— *viticola* on vine in Venezuela, 324.

Cercospora on *Albizia moluccana* in India, 48.

— *heteropeltoides* on wheat in England, 521; S. Australia, 124.

— *maculans* on mulberry in Iran, 99; U.S.A., 100.

— *primulae* on *Primula juliae* in England, 141.

Cercosporina *aleuritidis* synonym of *Mycosphaerella aleuritidis*, 55.

Cereals, diseases of, in U.S.A., 493.

—, pupation disease of, in U.S.S.R., 9.

—, rusts of, in U.S.S.R., handbook on, 283.

Cerebella, biological status of, 526.

— *inquinans* on grasses in Queensland, 526; *Claviceps* in relation to, 526.

Ceresan, effect of, on nodule formation in peas, 511; on wheat seed germination, 483.

—, use of, against *Fusarium oxysporum* on lupin, 405; *Melampsora lini*, 464; *Sphacelotheca sorghi*, 122; *Ustilago avenae* and *U. kolleri*, 124; *U. bullata* on grasses, 294; *Xanthomonas malvacearum*, 363, 414; as a beet seed treatment, 178; cotton seed treatment, 525.

[Ceresan], new improved, injury, 245, 507.

—, —, use of, against *Alternaria solani* on tomato, 126; *Corticium solani* on soy-bean and vetch, 515; *Fusarium bulbigenum* on *Narcissus*, 335; *Gibberella saubinetii* on barley, 326; *Sphacelotheca sorghi*, 485; *Ustilago avenae*, 326; *U. bullata* on grasses, 294; *U. kolleri*, 326; wheat bunt, 326; *Xanthomonas malvacearum*, 414; as a seed treatment, 178.

— UT 1875a, use of, against *Xanthomonas campestris* on *Matthiola incana*, 291.

Cerotelium desmidum on cotton in the Argentine, 417.

— *fici* on fig in Iran, 99.

Chaetomium on *Echinochloa crus-galli* in U.S.A., *Anacentrinus deplanatus* in relation to, 21.

— on walnut in U.S.A., 311.

— *globosum* in culture, medium for, 534; storage of, 89.

— on cotton textiles, 288; in U.S.A., 152.

— on oak in U.S.A., 272.

Chalaropsis imperfect stage of *Ceratostomella radicicola*, 13.

— *thielavioides* on rose in U.S.A., 19.

Chamaecyparis, *Phytophthora lateris* on, in U.S.A., 276.

Cheese moulds, in Canada, 256; New Zealand, 2; effect of ultra-violet radiation on 79.

Chenopodium album, beet savoy disease affecting, in Canada, 399; transmission of, by *Piesma cinereum*, 399.

—, *Peronospora effusa* on, spore dispersal of, 499.

Cherry (*Prunus avium* and *P. cerasus*), bacterial grease spot of, in Switzerland, 495.

—, *Botrytis* on, in U.S.A., 532.

— buckskin in U.S.A., 83; hosts of, 83.

—, *Cladosporium* on, in U.S.A., 532.

—, *Cocomyces hiemalis* on, 383, 384, 464; in U.S.A., 89, 148, 245, 296, 442; control, 89, 148, 245, 296, 383, 384, 442, 464.

—, *Cylindrocladium* on, in England, 24.

— diamond canker in U.S.A., 462.

—, dying-off of, in Italy, 463.

—, *Hormodendrum* and *Mucor* on, in U.S.A., 532.

—, peach line pattern virosis can infect, 146.

—, ring-spot virosis can infect, 85.

—, *Penicillium* and *P. expansum* on, in U.S.A., 532.

—, *Pullularia* on, in U.S.A., 532.

—, rasp leaf in U.S.A., 378.

—, *Sclerotinia fructicola* on, in New S. Wales, 244; U.S.A., 27, 532.

—, *fructigena* on, viability of conidia of, 27.

—, *laxa* on, in Germany, 460; U.S.A., 27; viability of conidia of, 27.

—, *Stemphylium* on, in U.S.A., 532.

—, yellows in U.S.A., 442.

Chestnut (*Castanea*), *Cytospora* on, in Spain, 404.

—, *Endothia parasitica* on, in Canada, 544; U.S.A., 4, 173, 310.

—, manganese deficiency in, in S. Africa, 467.

—, *Phytophthora cambivora* on, in Spain, 354, 404, 434, 476; control, 354, 434, 475.

Chick pea, see *Cicer arietinum*.

Chilli (*Capsicum spp.*) as a test plant for potato virus X, 218.

—, *Bacterium solanacearum* on, in U.S.A., 216.

—, *— syringae* var. *capsici* on, in Italy, 426.

—, 'blanching' in Spain, 404; tobacco mosaic virus in relation to, 404.

—, diseases in U.S.A., 161.

[Chilli] leaf curl in India, 342; *Scirtothrips dorsalis* in relation to, 342.

— lucerne mosaic can infect, 516.

— mosaic in Puerto Rico, 401, 408; Venezuela, 324; hosts of, 401; transmission of, by *Myzus persicae*, 401.

— *Peronospora tabacina* on, in U.S.A., 5.

— *Phoma terrestris* can infect, 118.

— *Phytophthora capsici* on, in U.S.A., 118.

— *Sclerotium rolfsii* on, in U.S.A., 126.

— tobacco mosaic affecting, 102; in Japan, 160.

— *Xanthomonas vesicatoria* on, in U.S.A., 52, 237.

Chlorine, use of, against *Colletotrichum lagenarium* on melon, 512; as a cereal seed-grain disinfectant, 10.

2-chloro-ortho-phenylphenol, use of, as a timber preservative, 436.

Chloropicrin, toxicity of, to *Sclerotium rolfsii*, 127.

—, use of, against damping-off of *Atropa belladonna*, 222; plant pathogens in soil, 423.

Chlorosis of *Araucaria cunninghamii* in Queensland, 184.

— of fruit trees, 528.

— of larch in England, 234.

— of vine, 528.

— lime-induced, of lupin 293.

Chondrostoma laricis on larch in Germany, 306.

Chrysanthemum, *Cercospora chrysanthemi* on, in the Philippines, 47.

— *Verticillium albo-atrum* on, in U.S.A., 203; *V. dahliae* (?) identical with, 203.

— *frutescens*, *Bacterium tumefaciens* on, 247, 444.

— *leucanthemum* var. *pinnatifidum*, potato yellow dwarf affecting, in U.S.A., 264.

Chrysomyxa tsugae on *Tsuga yunnanensis* in China, 45.

Chytridiaceae, parasitism in the, 351.

Cicadula bimaculata transmitting maize 'wallaby ear', 485.

Cicer arietinum, *Ascochyta rabiei* on, in Spain, 403.

—, *Colletotrichum* on, in India, 363.

—, *Fusarium* on, in India, 1, 120.

—, — *orthoceras* var. *ciceri* on, in India, 1; *Aspergillus* and *Trichoderma* antagonistic to, 1.

—, *Mycosphaerella rabiei* and *Operculella padwickii* on, in India, 120.

—, *Pythium* and *Rhizoctonia* on, in the Argentine, 5.

—, *Uromyces appendiculatus* on, in Tanganyika, 282.

Cichorium endivia, see Endive.

Cinchona, *Corticium solani* on, in the Philippines, 302.

Cintractia pulvрulenta on *Saccharum* in India, 305; *Ustilago pulvрulenta* renamed, 305.

—, *Ustilago courtoisi* wrongly identified as, 305.

Cissus japonica, *Aplanobacter cissicola* on, in Japan, 491.

Citharexylum spinosum, (?) *Lambertella* on, in Bermuda, 321.

Citrinin, 344.

Citron (*Citrus medica*), *Botryosphaeria ribis* on, in Brazil, 524.

Citrullus vulgaris, see Watermelon.

Citrus (including all *Citrus* hosts), *Alternaria citri* on, in China, 45.

—, *Armillaria mellea* on, in New S. Wales, 440.

—, *Ascochyta citri* on, in Venezuela, 324.

—, *Boletus tropicus* and other fungi in relation to *Pseudococcus* on, in Brazil, 414.

[*Citrus*], boron excess in, in U.S.A., 26.

—, *Botryosphaeria ribis* on, in Brazil, 524.

—, *Botrytis cinerea* on, in the Philippines, 66.

—, chlorotic disease of, in S. Australia, 287.

—, *Clitocybe tabescens* on, in U.S.A., 497.

—, *Colletotrichum gloeosporioides* on, in Chile, 443; Spain, 404; Venezuela, 324.

—, *Corticium salmonicolor* on, in India, 487.

—, *— stevensii* in U.S.A., 206.

—, *Diaporthe citri* on, in S. Africa, 46.

—, *Diplodia natalensis* on, in S. Africa, 486; U.S.A., 128, 331.

— diseases, control schedules for, in Queensland, 74.

—, *Elsinoe australis* on, in the Argentine, 369.

—, — *fawcetti* on, in Trinidad, 281; Venezuela, 324.

— false canker in the Argentine, 486.

— gummosis in U.S.A., 128.

— *lepra explosiva* in the Argentine, 486.

— leprosis in Brazil, 74.

—, magnesium deficiency in, in U.S.A., 524.

—, manganese deficiency in, in New S. Wales, 136; S. Africa, 467.

— mottle leaf in India, 414.

—, *Oospora citri-aurantii* on, in Brazil, 352; China, 45; Cuba, Guatemala, Haiti, and Mexico, 352; the Philippines, 66.

—, *Penicillium* on, in Western Australia, 369.

—, — *digitatum* on, in New Zealand, 3.

—, *Pestalotia citri* on, in India, 504.

—, *Phoma citricarpa* on, in New S. Wales, 122.

—, *Phytophthora* on, in India, 363.

—, — *boehmeriae* on, in the Argentine, 185.

—, — *citrophthora* on, in the Argentine, 185, 195; Chile, 443; the Philippines, 66; control, 195.

—, — *parasitica* on, in the Argentine, 195; U.S.A., 486.

—, *Pseudomonas syringae* on, in Portugal, 243.

— psorosis in U.S.A., 449.

— A in U.S.A., 74.

— root disease in Trinidad, 281.

— rot in the Argentine, 485.

—, *Rosellinia bunodes* on, in W. Indies, 162.

—, *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum* on, in New S. Wales, 440.

—, *Septoria citri* on, in (?) U.S.A., 73; Venezuela, 324.

— water spot in Western Australia, 368.

— witches' broom in Chile, 443.

—, *Xanthomonas citri* on, in (?) Spain, 352.

—, zinc deficiency in, in U.S.A., 536.

Citrus aurantiifolia, see Lime.

— aurantium and *C. bigaradia*, see Orange.

— *limonia*, see Lemon.

— *medica*, see Citron.

— *nobilis*, see Orange.

— *paradisi*, see Grapefruit.

— *poonensis*, see Orange.

— *sinensis*, see Orange.

— *tankan*, see Orange.

Cladosporium on cheese, effect of ultra-violet radiation on, 80.

— on cherry in U.S.A., 532.

— *carpophilum* on peach, 464; conidial characters of, 226.

— *cucumerinum* on cucumber in U.S.A., 322.

(?)— *epiphyllum* on *Robinia pseud-acacia* in U.S.A., 47.

— *fulvum* on tomato in Canada, 122; England, 172; New Zealand, 3; Spain, 404; U.S.A., 353, 452; control, 3; in relation to asthma of man, 452; varietal reaction to, 3, 122, 172.

[*Cladosporium*] *herbarum* on flax in Australia, 370; Germany, 453.
 — on cotton, textile, in New Zealand, 261.
 — *humile* imperfect stage of *Venturia acerina*, 274.
 — *vignae* on cowpea in U.S.A., 238.
Clasterosporium carpophilum on almond in U.S.A., 338.
 — on apricot in Chile, 443; U.S.A., 338, 339.
 — on peach in U.S.A., 338, 339.
 — on stone fruits in Switzerland, 280.
Claviceps in relation to *Cerebella inquinans* on grasses, 526.
 — on *Andropogon* (?) *gryllus* and *Brachypodium sylvaticum* in India, 206.
 — on grasses in Queensland, 82.
 — on *Opismenus cosmopolitus* in India, 206.
 — *paspali* on *Paspalum* in New Zealand, 452.
 — on *Paspalum dilatatum* in Australia, 22; S. Africa and U.S.A., 337.
 — on *Paspalum distichum* in Australia, 22; cattle poisoning by, 22.
 — *purpurea*, chemistry of, 453.
 — — hosts of, in New Zealand, 452.
 — — on *Festuca* in New Zealand, 205; collection of, 205.
 — — on grasses in U.S.A., 337.
 — — on rye, 70; in Britain, 135; New S. Wales, 135; New Zealand, 2; Spain, 403; culture of, 70, 135.
 — *pusilla* on *Bothriochloa* in New S. Wales, 244.
 — — on *Dichanthium sericeum* in Queensland, 82.
Clitocybe tabescens on banana in U.S.A., 497; host range of, 497.
 — — on *Casuarina lepidophloia* in U.S.A., 486.
Clove oil, use of, against *Bacterium tumefaciens* on *Prunus*, 130.
Clover (*Trifolium*), beet savoy disease affecting, in Canada, 399; transmission of, by *Piesma cinerea*, 399.
 — *Botrytis* on, in U.S.A., 527.
 — calcium deficiency in, 300.
 — *Cercospora* on, in U.S.A., 527.
 — *Colletotrichum trifolii* on, in U.S.A., 527.
 — *Dothidella trifolii* on, in Iran, 99, 527; U.S.A., 22.
 — *Erwinia lathyri* on, in U.S.A., 527.
 — *Erysiphe polygoni* on red, in U.S.A., 22.
 — *Fusarium* on, in U.S.A., 527.
 — mosaic, white, in U.S.A., 293; pea mottle and pea wilt in relation to, 293.
 — *Pleosphaerulina briosiana* var. *macrospora* on, in Portugal, 504.
 — potato yellow dwarf affecting, in U.S.A., 36, 264; named *Marmor vastans* H. var. *agalliae*, 36; transmission of, by *Agallia constricta*, 36.
 — *Sclerotinia trifoliorum*, *Sclerotium rolfsii*, and *Stagonospora meliloti* on, in U.S.A., 527.
 — *Stemphylium sarciniforme* on red, in U.S.A., 22.
 —, (?) *Typhula* on, in Canada, 143.
 — *Uromyces fallens* on red, in U.S.A., 22.
 — — *trifolii* on red, in Iran, 99.
Cloves (*Eugenia aromatic*), sudden death of, in Zanzibar, 407.
Coal tar, use of, against *Ceratostomella fimbriata* on *Hevea rubi*, 323.
 — — creosote, use of, as a timber preservative, 357, 399, 407.
 — — oil, use of, as a timber preservative, 277.
Cobalt, use of, against *Bacterium tumefaciens*, 266.
Coccidioides immitis can infect *Peromyscus*, 333.
 — — carbon and nitrogen nutrition of, 290.
 — — in soil in U.S.A., 333.
 — — on man, 15; U.S.A., 199, 417.
Coccobacillus parasitizing *Cactoblastis cactorum* in Australia, 34.
Coccomyces hiemalis on cherry, 383, 384, 464; in U.S.A., 89, 148, 245, 296, 442; control, 89, 148, 245, 296, 383, 384, 442, 464.
Coccus viride, *Septobasidium bogoriense* on, in Dutch E. Indies, 137.
Cochlearia armoracia, see Horse radish.
Cochliobolus stenospilus on sugar-cane in Cuba, 99; Hawaii, 349.
Cochlonema bactrosporum var. *longius* and *C. euryblastum* on amoebae, 488.
Coco-nut (*Cocos nucifera*), bronze leaf wilt of, in Jamaica, 242.
 — *Ganoderma lucidum* on, in India, 252.
 — *Marasmius palmivorus* on, in Malaya, 66.
 — *Phytophthora palmivora* on, in Ceylon, 331.
Coffee (*Coffea*), *Cercospora coffeicola* on, in Venezuela, 324.
 — diseases in the Cameroons and French Equatorial Africa, book on, 524.
 — *Fusarium* on, in Puerto Rico, 408.
 — *Hemileia vastatrix* on, in Cameroons and French Equatorial Africa, 524; Tanganyika, 281.
 — *Omphalia flavida* on, in Venezuela, 324.
 — *Polyporus coffeeae* on, in Java, 287.
Coleus, effect of dusts on transpiration of, 298.
Colletotrichum on *Aristolochia* in India, 363.
 — on banana in Queensland, 87.
 — on cacao in Colombia, 7.
 — on *Cicer arietinum* in India, 363.
 — on cotton in India, 363.
 — on orange in S. Australia, 124.
 — on orchid in Puerto Rico, 202.
 — on tobacco in U.S.A., 269.
 — *atramentarium* on tomato in Germany, 431; S. Australia, 103.
 — *capsici*, synonymy of, 363.
 — *curcumae* on turmeric in Ceylon, 66.
 — — synonym of *C. capsici*, 363.
 — *falcatum* on sugar-cane in India, 162, 347, 363, 472; Mauritius, 98, 126; S. Africa, 222; U.S.A., 303, 349; antagonism of *Trichoderma viride* to, 162; control, 222, 349; culture, 162, 303; saltation in, 162; varietal reaction to, 347, 363, 472.
 — *gloeosporioides*, *Actinomyces* antagonistic to, 155.
 — — on citrus in Venezuela, 324.
 — — on orange in Chile, 443; Spain, 404.
 — — on papaw in Brazil, 88; Hawaii, 149; (?) U.S.A., 463; (?) Venezuela, 324; control, 149.
 — *indicum* on cotton in India, 363, 525; a synonym of *C. capsici*, 363.
 — *lagenarium* on melon in U.S.A., 512.
 — *lindenuthianum* on bean in Chile, 443; Switzerland, 497; U.S.A., 387; Venezuela, 360; varietal reaction to, 360.
 — *lini* on flax, 489.
 — *pisi* on pea in U.S.S.R., 115.
 — *trifolii* on clover in U.S.A., 527.
Colloidal sulphur, use of, against fly speck and sooty blotch of apple, 145; (?) *Oidium mangiferae*, 31; *Puccinia pruni-spinosae* on plum, 244; *Sclerotinia fructicola* on cherry, 244; on nectarine and peach, 281.
Collybia velutipes, cultural study on, 59.
 — — on lupin in U.S.A., 293.

Commelina nudiflora, banana virus affecting, in Brazil, 88.
 — mosaic in Hawaii, 64; a type of cucumber mosaic virus, 64.
 Conifers, *Polyporus circinatus* on, in Canada, 174; renamed *P. tomentosus* var. *circinatus*, 174.
Coniophora cerebella, see *C. puteana*.
 — *puteana* on timber, 436, 477, 509.
 — on wood pulp, 357.
Coniothecium chomatosporum on apple in India, 531.
Coniothyrium diplodiella on vine in Switzerland, 280.
 — *truncisedum* on oak in U.S.A., 272.
Conotrachelus anaglypticus in relation to *Ceratomella ulmi* on elm, 104.
Convallaria majalis, see Lily of the Valley.
 Coposil, use of, against *Venturia inaequalis*, 245.
 Copper, fungicidal action of, 150, 497.
 —, use of, as a fungicide in Switzerland, 497.
 — carbonate, effect of, on wheat seed germination, 482.
 —, particle size in relation to toxicity and tenacity of, 424.
 —, toxicity of, to *Venturia inaequalis*, 376.
 —, use of, against *Mycosphaerella pinodes*, 185; *Phytophthora cambivora*, 354, 434, 475; seed-borne diseases of barley, oats, and wheat, 327; *Sphaelotheca sorghi*, 71, 122, 485; as a cotton seed treatment, 525; as a wound dressing, 531.
 — chloride, basic, use of, against *Cercospora beticola*, 358.
 — compounds, use of, against *Alternaria solani* on tomato, 230; *Cercospora beticola*, 179; *Cocomyces hiemalis*, 245; *Didymella appplanata*, 280; *Erysiphe*, 382; *Isariopsis fumicola* on vine, 279; *Oidium caricae* and *Phytophthora parasitica* on papaw, 150; *Septoria lycopersici*, 230.
 — deficiency in celery in U.S.A., 442; *Echinochloa crus-galli* in Western Australia, 68; grasses in Western Australia, 372; lucerne in S. Australia, 125; lupin in Germany, 134; maize in Western Australia, 68, 92; mustard in Germany, 134; oats, 10, 266; in Germany, 134; Australia, 125; Western Australia, 68; pea in Western Australia, 92; potato in (?) U.S.A., 441; Western Australia, 92; Sudan grass in Western Australia, 68; swede and tomato in Western Australia, 92; wheat in Western Australia, 68.
 — in relation to pineapple crook-neck, 183; to potato stem-end browning, 322.
 —, fixed, flowability and density of, 32.
 — formate, use of, for rot-proofing cotton textiles, 541.
 — hydro, use of, against *Cronartium fusiforme* on pine, 111.
 — '40', use of, against *Cocomyces hiemalis*, 148.
 — injury, 89.
 — lime dust, use of, against *Cladosporium vignae*, 238; against *Phytophthora infestans*, 346, 426; *Xanthomonas vesicatoria* on chilli, 238.
 — oleate, use of, for rot-proofing cotton textiles, 451.
 — oxalate, use of, against *Xanthomonas juglandis*, 310.
 — oxide, use of, for rot-proofing cotton textiles, 451.
 —, red (cuprous), effect of, on wheat seed germination, 482; of proteins on toxicity of, 424.
 — [Copper oxide, red], tenacity of, 341.
 — —, use of, against *Alternaria solani* on tomato, 269; *Cercospora arachidicola* and *C. personata*, 65, 402; *Colletotrichum lini*, 489; *Diplodia zeae* on maize, 327; maize seed diseases, 327; *Peronospora tabacina* on *Capsicum annuum*, 5; *Phytophthora infestans* on potato, 346; *Polyspora lini*, 489; seed-borne diseases of barley, oats, and wheat, 327; *Sphaelotheca sorghi*, 71; *Xanthomonas juglandis*, 310; *Xanthomonas vesicatoria* on chilli, 237, 238; with sulphur against *Pseudoperonospora humuli* and *Sphaerotheca humuli*, 246.
 — oxychloride, effect of proteins on toxicity of, 424.
 —, use of, against *Alternaria solani* on tomato, 269, 309; *Clasterosporium carpophilum*, 280; *Didymella appplanata*, 280; *Phytophthora cambivora*, 434, 475; *P. infestans* on potato, 346; tomato, 474; *Plasmopara viticola*, 279; *Puccinia pruni-spinosae* on plum, 244; *Sclerotinia fructicola* on apricot, 123; cherry, 244; *Venturia inaequalis*, 280, 375.
 — sulphate, use of, against *Septoria lycopersici*, 245.
 — phosphate, use of, against *Pseudoperonospora cubensis*, 117.
 — solution, electrified, use of, as a timber preservative, 357.
 — sprays, tenacity of, 341.
 — sulphate, effect of proteins on toxicity of, 424.
 — —, — soil applications of, on pineapple crook-neck, 183.
 —, toxicity of, to *Alternaria solani*, *Sclerotinia fructicola*, and *Uromyces caryophyllinus*, 422.
 —, use of, against copper deficiency in crops, 68, 92; potato, 441; wheat, 68.
 —, basic, use of, against seed-borne diseases of barley, oats, and wheat, 327.
 —, tri-basic, particle size in relation to tenacity and toxicity of, 424.
 — —, use of, against *Alternaria solani* on tomato, 269; *Cercospora beticola*, 358.
 —, Tennessee 34, use of, against *Cocomyces hiemalis*, 443.
 — xanthates, use of, as fungicides, 498.
 — zeolite, tenacity of, 341.
 Coppesian, use of, against *Phytophthora infestans*, 470.
 Copra, see Coco-nut.
Corchorus capsularis and *C. olitorius*, see Jute.
Cordyceps in Victoria, 472.
Cordyluridae, *Empusa muscae* on, in China, 45.
Coriandrum sativum, *Uromyces graminis* can infect, 303.
Corticium on fig in U.S.A., 296.
 — calcium on wood pulp, 357.
 — *invisum* on tea in India, 48.
 — *koleroga*, distinct from *C. stevensii*, 297.
 — *lividum* on oak in U.S.A., 396.
 — *microsclerotia* on bean in (?) the Philippines, 67; Venezuela, 360.
 — on fig in U.S.A., 296.
 — — on *Phaseolus lunatus* in Venezuela, 360.
 — *salmonicolor* on apple in Mauritius, 126; Tanganyika, 282.
 — on cacao in Colombia, 6.
 — on *Cassia* in Mauritius, 126.
 — on *Hevea* rubber in Malaya, 391.
 — on orange in India, 487.
 — on poplar in Mauritius, 126.
 — *solani*, antagonism of *Bacillus simplex* to, 443; of *Trichoderma* to, 76.
 — in soil, 412.

[*Corticium solani*] on *Agrostis stolonifera* in U.S.A., 493.
 — on *Anethum graveolens* in U.S.A., 221.
 — on *Atropa belladonna* in U.S.A., 222.
 — on beans in Venezuela, 360.
 — on beet in Canada, 400; New S. Wales, 244; U.S.A., 178, 400, 511; breeding against, 400; control, 178.
 (?) — on *Centrosema pubescens* in Sumatra, 324.
 — on *Cinchona* in the Philippines, 302; transmission of, to pine, 303.
 — on cotton in the Argentine, 417; India, 76, 450, 525; U.S.A., 14, 196, 298, 331, 414, 524; control, 298, 525; effect of fungi on growth of, 76; factors affecting 450; statistical study on, 196.
 — on date palm in U.S.A., 195.
 — on *Echinochloa crus-galli* in U.S.A., 21; *Anacestrinus deplanatus* in relation to, 21.
 — on *Foeniculum vulgare* in U.S.A., 221.
 — on lupin in U.S.A., 293.
 — on maize in U.S.A., 72.
 — on pea in U.S.A., 245.
 — on pine in Canada, 302, 508.
 — on potato in Chile, 470; Germany, 38; Hungary, 501; U.S.A., 37, 95, 263, 301, 322, 345; control, 37, 263, 345; varietal reaction to, 322.
 — on soy-bean in U.S.A., 515.
 — on spruce in Canada, 508.
 — on tobacco in Brazil, 246.
 — on trees in U.S.A., 105.
 — on turf, 383.
 — on vetch in U.S.A., 515.
 — on wheat in Canada and England, 412.
 — *stevensii*, host range of, in U.S.A., 206.
 — on fig in U.S.A., 206, 296; *C. koleroga* distinct from, 297.
Corylus avellana, *Mamianiella coryli* on, in Iran, 99.
 —, *Phylomonas corylina* on, in U.S.A., 310.
 (?) *Coryne sarcoidea* on oak in U.S.A., 396.
Corynebacterium, plant pathogenic species of, 364.
 — *fuscans*, lipolytic activity of, 517.
 — on strawberry in England, 282.
 — *insidiosum* on lucerne in Canada, 121; U.S.A., 527.
 — *michiganense* on tomato, 474; in Canada, 53; U.S.A., 353; U.S.S.R., 172; breeding against, 474; control, 353; legislation against, in S. Africa, 240; serological diagnosis of, 172; varietal reaction to, 474.
 — *sepedonicum* on potato, 302, 469; in Canada, 122; U.S.A., 94, 95, 263, 301, 322, 341, 390, 441, 501, 502, 537; U.S.S.R., 40; Venezuela, 324, 346; control, 94, 95, 263, 322, 537; detection of, by Gram stain and ultra-violet rays, 390; by a serological method, 40; factors affecting, 341, 346; 'internal mahogany browning' in relation to, 302; losses caused by, 502; taxonomy of, 469; transmission of, by insects, 501.
Coryneum kunzei on oak in U.S.A., 272.
 — *longistipitatum* on apple in Portugal, 243, 495.
 — *rhododendri* var. *fuscoideum* on *Rhododendron catawbiense* in U.S.A., 47.
Cotton (Gossypium), *Aecidium gossypii* on, in U.S.A., 253, 487.
 —, *Alternaria* on, in S. Africa, 414; in U.S.A., 14, 253.
 —, *Aspergillus niger* on, in the Argentine, 417.
 —, *bacterium G* and *Y* on, in S. Africa, 415.
 [Cotton], *Bacterium tumefaciens* on, in the Argentine, 417.
 —, *Capnodium* and *Cerotelium desmum* on, in the Argentine, 417.
 —, *Colletotrichum indicum* on, in India, 363, 525; synonym of *C. capsici*, 363.
 —, *Corticium solani* on, in the Argentine, 417; India, 76, 450, 525; U.S.A., 14, 196, 298, 331, 414, 524; control, 298, 525; effect of fungi on growth of, 76; factors affecting, 450; statistical study on, 196.
 —, *Diplodia gossypina* on, in U.S.A., 14.
 — diseases, seed disinfection against, 198, 525.
 —, *Fusarium chlamydosporum*, *F. equiseti* var. *bulletum*, *F. scirpi*, *F. scirpi* var. *acuminatum*, *F. semitectum*, and *F. solani* on, in U.S.A., 331-2.
 —, *— vasinfectum* on, 198; in the Argentine, 417; U.S.A., 74, 197, 332, 414, 440, 450; breeding against, 198; control, 74, 414; factors affecting, 74, 451; varietal reaction to, 197, 414, 440, 450.
 —, *Gibberella fujikuroi* on, in U.S.A., 14, 196, 331, 414, 451; statistical study on, 196; varietal reaction to, 451.
 —, *Glomerella gossypii* on, in the Argentine, 417; U.S.A., 14, 196, 331, 414, 451; statistical study on, 196; varietal reaction to, 451.
 — leaf curl in the Sudan, 416.
 —, *Macrophomina phaseoli* on, in India, 76, 450; U.S.A., 332; effect of fungi on growth of, 76.
 —, *Monilia sitophila* on, in the Argentine, 417.
 —, *Nematospora coryli* on, in S. Africa, 415.
 —, *— gossypii* on, in Nyasaland, 4; S. Africa, 415.
 —, *Phymatotrichum omnivorum* on, in U.S.A., 127, 137, 253, 414; control, 127, 414; soil fungi in relation to, 137.
 —, potassium deficiency in, in U.S.A., 74.
 —, *Pythium* on, in India, 525; U.S.A., 298.
 —, *Rhizopus nigricans* on, and ring spot of, in the Argentine, 417.
 —, *Sclerotium rolfsii* on, in India, 525; U.S.A., 138.
 —, *Thielaviopsis basicola* on, in U.S.A., 431.
 — 'tirak' in India, 449.
 —, *Trichothecium roseum* on, in the Argentine, 417.
 —, *Verticillium* on, in Peru, 517.
 —, *— albo-atrum* on, in U.S.A., 253.
 —, *— dahliae* on, in S. Africa, 416.
 —, *Xanthomonas malvacearum* on, in the Argentine, 417; India, 363; Nyasaland, 4; S. Africa, 415; Southern Rhodesia, 416; U.S.A., 196, 262, 414; control, 198, 363, 414, 415; varietal reaction to, 415.
 — yellow mosaic in the Argentine, 417.
 —, textile, *Chaetomium globosum* on, 288; in U.S.A., 152.
 —, *— Cladosporium herbarum* on, in New Zealand, 261; control, 261.
 —, *— rotting of*, in New Zealand, 261; control, 261, 451.
 —, *— Spirochaeta cytophaga* on, physiology of, 288.
Cottonseed oil, use of, as a spray supplement, 63.
Cowpea (Vigna unguiculata), *Ascochyta phaseolorum* on, in China, 45.
 —, *Cercospora cruenta* on, in Venezuela, 360.
 —, *Cladosporium vignae* on, in U.S.A., 238.
 —, *Erysiphe polygoni* on, in Tanganyika, 282.
 — mosaic in India, 514; Tanganyika, 282.
Crambe maritima, see Sea-kale.
Cranberry (Vaccinium), false blossom of, hosts of, in U.S.A., 340; transmission of, by *Cuscuta*

campestris, 340; virus of, affecting *Vinca* in U.S.A., 340.

Crataegus, *Entomosporium thuemenii* on, in U.S.A., 434.

Cream, moulds in, Wildman M.B.B. test for, 17.

—, *Oospora lactis* in, in U.S.A., 16, 17, 80.

—, see also Milk.

Creosote, use of, as a timber preservative, 108, 109, 111, 311, 315, 435, 475, 476, 509; as a wound dressing, 276.

— oil, use of, as a wound dressing, 487.

— petroleum, use of, as a timber preservative, 109.

—, see also Coal Tar, Tar.

Cress (*Lepidium sativum*) diseases in Great Britain, 316.

Cronartium asclepiadeum, nomenclature of, 312.

— *coleosporioides* on pine and *Melampyrum lineare* in N. America, 395.

— *comandreae* and *U. comptoniae* on pine in Canada, 395.

— *fusiforme* on pine in U.S.A., 111.

— *gentianae*, geographical distribution of, 312; nomenclature of, 312.

— *ribicola* on currants in U.S.A., 29, 533.

— — on pine in Canada, 543; U.S.A., 105, 355, 508, 533; control, 105; *Ribes* eradication against, 105.

— — on *Ribes* in U.S.A., 105, 260, 508; eradication against, 105.

— — on *Ribes alpinum* in U.S.A., 260.

— — on *Ribes americanum* in U.S.A., 355.

— — on *Ribes cynosbati* in U.S.A., 260, 355, 533.

— — on *Ribes rotundifolium* in U.S.A., 355, 533.

Crucifers, *Alternaria brassicae* and *A. oleracea* on seed of, in U.S.A., 246.

—, boron deficiency in, 317.

—, *Plasmiodiphora brassicae* on, legislation against, in England, 64.

—, *Rhizopus nigricans* on seed of, in U.S.A., 246.

Cryptocid, use of, against *Venturia inaequalis*, 377.

Cryptococcus in relation to *Debaryomyces neoforman*s on man, 289.

Cryptonol, use of, against *Coniothyrium diplodiella* on vine, 280.

Cryptosporella viticola on vine in U.S.A., 318.

Cryptosporiopsis imperfect stage of *Pezicula carneae* and *P. subcarnea*, 54.

Cucumber (*Cucumis sativus*), *Cercospora melonis* on, in Germany, 116.

—, *Cladosporium cucumerinum* on, in U.S.A., 322.

— diseases in U.S.A., 438.

—, *Erwinia tracheiphila* on, in U.S.A., 341; *Diabrotica melanocephala* in relation to, 341.

—, lucerne mosaic can infect, 516.

— mosaic, 18, 293; in Canada, 506; Hawaii, 64; U.S.A., 18, 341, 438; antagonism of, to tobacco mosaic, 268; *Commelina nudiflora* mosaic virus a type of, 64; *Diabrotica melanocephala* in relation to, 341; factors affecting, 341; types of, 506; varietal reaction to, 438; virus of, affecting lupin, 293; tobacco, 506; tulip, 18; virus protein of, 473.

—, pea mottle can infect, 293.

—, *Phoma terrestris* can infect, 118.

—, *Pseudomonas lacrymans* on, in U.S.A., 341.

—, *Pseudoperonospora cubensis* on, in U.S.A., 117, 317; Venezuela, 324; control, 117.

—, tobacco broad ring spot virus on, in U.S.A., 540.

Cucumis melo and its vars. *inodorus* and *utilissima*, see Melon.

— var. *cantaloupina*, see Cantaloupe.

— *sativus*, see Cucumber.

Cucurbita, see Squash.

— *pepo* var. *condensa*, *Phytophthora capsici* on, in U.S.A., 118.

Cunninghamella on oak in U.S.A., 272.

— *meischeckella* on pine in U.S.A., 233.

Cuproxen, use of, against *Pseudopeziza ribis*, 280.

Cupressus, *Cytospora cenisia* f. *littoralis* on, in U.S.A., 106.

—, *Macrophoma* (?) *cupressi* on, in U.S.A., 53.

— *arizonica*, *Macrophoma* on, in U.S.A., 53.

— *lawsoniana*, *Rhizophagus* on, forming mycorrhiza in Britain and N. America, 300.

— *macrocarpa*, *Polyporus basilaris* on, in U.S.A., 313.

Cuprital, use of, against *Plasmopara viticola*, 240.

Cuprocide, effect of, on nodule formation in peas, 511.

— injury, 245.

—, use of, against *Erysiphe graminis* and *E. polygoni*, 383; *Peronospora schleideniana* on onion, 63; *Pseudoperonospora cubensis*, 117; *Stemphylium botryosum* var. *tragopogonis* on *Tragopogon porrifolius*, 361; as a pea seed disinfectant, 245.

— 54, use of, against *Colletotrichum gloeosporioides* on papaw, 150.

— 54 Y, use of, against *Colletotrichum gloeosporioides* on papaw, 150; *Septoria lycopersici*, 245.

— GA, use of, against *Diplocarpon rosae*, 128.

— yellow, use of, against *Pseudoperonospora humuli*, 246; *Septoria lycopersici*, 245.

Cupro K, use of, against *Coccomyces hiemalis*, 148, 443.

Cupromaag, use of, against *Venturia inaequalis*, 377.

Cuprous, see under Copper.

Curcuma longa, see Turmeric.

Currants (*Ribes* spp.), *Cronartium ribicola* on, in U.S.A., 29, 533.

—, *Mycosphaerella grossulariae* on, in New Zealand, 29; U.S.A., 245.

—, *Pseudopeziza ribis* on, in U.S.A., 245.

—, *Stereum purpureum* on, in New Zealand, 29.

—, tomato ring spot on, in U.S.A., 495.

Cuscuta, see Dodder.

Cyclocephada borealis, *Bacillus popilliae* can infect, 78.

Cycloconium oleaginum on olive in Spain, 403.

Cydonia vulgaris, see Quince.

Cylindrocladium on cherry, lupin, and plum in England, 24.

Cylindrosporium quercinum on oak in U.S.A., 272.

Cymbopogon citratus, *Helminthosporium cymbopogii* on, in Guatemala, 419.

— *nardus* subsp. *genuinus*, *Helminthosporium cymbopogii* on, in Guatemala, 419.

Cynara scolymus, see Artichoke.

Cyphomandra betacea, *Bacterium solanacearum* on, resistance to, 103.

Cypripedium callosum, *Penicillium thomii* on, in England, 141.

Cystopus occidentalis on spinach in U.S.A., 128.

Cytospora on chestnut in Spain, 404.

— *cenisia* f. *littoralis* on *Cupressus* in U.S.A., 106.

— *chrysosperma* on poplar in Iran, 99.

— *cydoniae* on quince in Brazil, 246.

Cytaria and *Cytariella* in the Argentine, revision of, 507.

Dactylis aschereoniana, *Uromyces dactylidis* f. spp. *bulbos-dactylidis* and *repenti-dactylidis* can infect, 203.
 — *glomerata*, *Claviceps purpurea* on, in New Zealand, 452.
 — — —, *Phyllosticta owensis* on, in U.S.A., 203.
 — — —, *Scolecothrichum graminis* on, in Uruguay, 129.
 — — —, *Uromyces dactylidis* on, in Switzerland, 203.
Dahlia, *Bacterium tumefaciens* on, 444.
 — — —, *Entyloma dahliae* on, in Brazil, 246; Mauritius, 126; Venezuela, 324.
 Damping-off in Canada, 544.
 — of elm in U.S.A., 106.
 — of *Pseudotsuga taxifolia* in Canada, 544.
 —, see also *Phytophthora*, *Pythium*, *Rhizoctonia*, and other fungi.
Daphne mezereum, *Bacterium tumefaciens* on, in Germany, 444.
Darluca filum parasitizing *Puccinia coronata*, *P. graminis*, *P. montanensis*, *P. poae-sudeticae*, and *P. rubigo-vera* on grasses in U.S.A., 493; *P. kuehni* on *Saccharum arundinaceum* in India, 472.
 Date palm (*Phoenix dactylifera*), *Ceratostomella radicicola* on, in U.S.A., 13, 195; *Chalaropsis imperfecta* stage of, 13.
 —, *Corticium solani* and *Fusarium* on, in U.S.A., 195.
 —, *Massariella palmarum* on, in Iran, 99.
 —, *Trichoderma viride* on, in U.S.A., 195.
Datura fastuosa, virus mottling of, in India, 342.
 — *stramonium*, *Alternaria crassa* and *Bacterium solanacearum* on, in U.S.A., 221.
 — — —, banana virus can infect, 88.
 — — —, tobacco leaf curl can infect, 167.
 — *tatula*, *Bacterium tumefaciens* can infect, 444.
Daucus carota, see Carrot.
Debaryomyces neoformans on man, 15; in Queensland, 289; U.S.A., 289; *Cryptococcus* in relation to, 289.
 Deficiency diseases in plants, book on, 42.
 — — —, review of, 156, 300.
Delphinium, *Sclerotium rolfsii* on, in U.S.A., 138.
Dematium pullulans, synonym of *Pullularia pullulans*, 356.
Dendrobium, *Pythium* on, in Mauritius, 126.
Dendrophoma obscurans on strawberry in U.S.A., 463.
Dermalea brunneo-pruinosa renamed *Pestalozzia brunneo-pruinosa*, 504.
 Dermatomycoses, review of recent work on, 334.
 Dermatophytes, preservation of, by desiccation, 188.
Derris elliptica, *Fomes annosus* on, in Sumatra, 323.
 Dewberry (*Rubus*) diseases in U.S.A., 148.
Diabrotica melanocephala in relation to *Eruinia tracheiphila* on, and mosaic of, cucumber, 341.
Diacetyle, toxicity of, to butter moulds, 334.
Diaminodiphenylamine, 2, 4-, use of, as a fungicide against fruit tree diseases, 464.
Dianthus barbatus, *Fusarium oxysporum* f. *barbati* on, in U.S.A., 142.
 — *caryophyllus*, see Carnation.
Dianthe ambigua on pear in N. America, 531.
 — *citri* on citrus in S. Africa, 46.
 — *perniciosa* on apple in Southern Rhodesia, 46.
 (?) — — — on peach in U.S.A., 378.
 — *vexans*, perfect stage of *Phomopsis vexans*, 514.
Diatrype stigma on oak in U.S.A., 272.

Dichanthium sericeum, *Claviceps pusilla* on, in Queensland, 82.
Dicheirinia binata on *Erythrina* in Colombia, 8.
 Dichlorobenzene, para-, use of, against *Peronospora tabacina*, 505.
Didymella applanata on raspberry in Switzerland, 280; U.S.A., 246.
 — *lycopersici* on tomato in England, 542.
Didymella dianthi on carnation in New Zealand, 2.
 — (?) *macrospora* on iris in Great Britain, 81.
Diedebea piceae on spruce in U.S.A., 394.
Dieffenbachia picta, *Cephalosporium dieffenbachiae* on, in U.S.A., 335.
Digitalis purpurea, *Fusarium* on, in U.S.A., 222.
 — — —, *Ramularia variabilis* on, in New S. Wales, 244.
 — *sanguinalis*, *Phyllosticta rogerii* on, in U.S.A., 204.
 Dinitro-ortho-cresol, see Elgetol.
 Dinitrophenol a constituent of thanalith, 358; triolith, 109; Wolman salts, 358.
Diospyros lotus, *Cercospora kaki* on, in Iran, 99.
 — *virginiana*, see Persimmon.
 Diphenyl-treated wrappers, use of, against orange decay, 13.
 Diphenylamines, use of, as fungicides, 464.
Diplocarpon earlianum on strawberry in U.S.A., 463.
 — *roseae* on rose in U.S.A., 128; Venezuela, 324.
Diplodia on *Hevea* rubber in Ceylon, 97.
 — on orange in India, 487.
 — *conigena* synonym of *Diplodia pinea*, 398.
 — *gossypina* on cotton in U.S.A., 14.
 — *macrospora* on maize in U.S.A., 285; culture of, 330.
 — — — on sunflower in Jamaica, 242.
 — *natalensis* on citrus in S. Africa, 486; U.S.A., 128, 331.
 — — — on timber in U.S.A., 175; dissemination of, 175.
 — *pinea* on pine in Canada, 398; U.S.A., 100; synonymy of, 398.
 — *zeae* on maize in Australia, 407; Canada, 121; U.S.A., 72, 285, 327, 331, 368; control, 72, 327; physiology of, 285.
Diplodia on orchid in Puerto Rico, 202.
 Disodium hydrogen arsenate a constituent of thanalith, 358.
Distichlis stricta, *Septogloea oxysporum* on, in N. America, 204.
 Dodder (*Cuscuta*) transmitting cranberry false blossom, 340; tobacco streak, 516.
Dolichos mosaic in India, 342.
 — *lablab*, *Elsinoc dolichi* on, in China, 45.
 Dolomite, use of, against magnesium deficiency of oil palm, 196.
Dombeya punctata, *Clitocybe tabescens* on, in U.S.A., 497.
Dothichiza garryae on *Garrya elliptica* and *G. flavescens* var. *bxifolia* in U.S.A., 394.
 Dothideales, list of, in Colombia, 99.
Dothidella trifolii on clover in Iran, 99; U.S.A., 22, 527.
Dothiorella berengeriana in relation to bark bleeding of *Liquidambar styraciflua*, 274.
 — *malii* var. *fructus* on apple in U.S.A., 47.
 — *querina* on oak in U.S.A., 272.
Dothistroma pini on pine in U.S.A., 275.
 Dowicide, use of, against *Pullularia pullulans* on wood pulp, 314.
Draculacephala portola transmitting sugar-cane chlorotic streak, 266.

Dubay 1205-FF, see *Tetramethylthiuram disulphide*.
 Dusting apparatus, 146.

Echinochloa crus-galli, *Alternaria*, *Aspergillus*, *Basisporium*, *Brachysporium*, *Cephalothecium*, and *Chaetomium* on, in U.S.A., 21.

— copper deficiency in, in Western Australia, 68.

—, *Corticium solani*, *Fusarium culmorum*, *Gibberella saubinetii*, *Helminthosporium pedicellatum*, *H. sativum*, and *Penicillium* on, in U.S.A., 21.

—, *Pythium arrhenomanes* on, in U.S.A., 367.

—, *Stemphylium* and *Trichoderma* on, in U.S.A., 21.

—, *Ustilago sphaerogena* on, in U.S.A., 20.

Eggplant (*Solanum melongena*), *Bacterium solanacearum* on, 103; in U.S.A., 216.

, *Corynebacterium sepedonicum* can infect, 346.

, *Phoma terrestris* can infect, 118.

, *Phomopsis vexans* on, in U.S.A., 514; *Diaporthe vexans* perfect stage of, 514.

—, *Phytophthora capsici* can infect, 118.

—, *parasitica* on, in India, 2.

Elaeis guineensis, see Oil palm.

Elettaria cardamomum, see Cardamom.

Eleusine coracana, *Piricularia* on, in India, 363.

—, *setariae* can infect, 363.

Ergotol, use of, against *Bacterium tumefaciens* on *Prunus*, 130; *Ditymella applanata*, 245; *Elsinoe veneta*, 494; *Puccinia asparagi*, 437; *Venturia inaequalis*, 82, 245, 494; as a pollencide, 530.

Elm (*Ulmus*), boron excess in, in U.S.A., 26.

—, *Ceratostomella ulmi* on, 54, 273; in England, 234; in U.S.A., 104, 106, 231, 433, 474; apple in relation to, 474; *Hydrgopinus* in relation to, 104, 106; insects in relation to, 104; occluded infections of, 433; *Scolytus* in relation to, 106, 273, 433, 475; specific reaction to, 54; toxin of, 433.

—, damping-off of, in U.S.A., 105.

—, deficiency symptoms in, 53.

—, *Phytophthora cactorum* on, in U.S.A., 394.

Elsinoe, list of spp. of, in Brazil, 225.

revised description of, 225.

—, *ampelina* on vine in Brazil, 319; Chile, 480, 481; in U.S.A., 318; Venezuela, 324; control, 318, 319, 480; varietal reaction to, 319, 480.

—, *australis* on orange in the Argentine, 369.

—, *dolichi* on *Dolichos lablab* in China, 45.

—, *fawcetti* on grapefruit in Trinidad, 281.

—, on lemon and orange in Venezuela, 324.

—, *lepagei* on *Achras sapota* in Brazil, 225.

—, *parthenocissae* on Virginia creeper in U.S.A., 455.

—, *piri* on apple in Chile, 443.

—, *randii* on pecan in U.S.A., 55.

—, *veneta* on raspberry in Chile, 443; New Zealand, 29; in U.S.A., 494.

Elymus, *Pythium arrhenomanes* on, in U.S.A., 367.

—, *canadensis*, *Urocystis agropyri* and *U. occulta* can infect, 293.

—, *Ustilago bullata* on, in U.S.A., 294.

—, *condensatus*, *Septogloewm oxysporum* on, in N. America, 204.

—, *glaucus*, *Septogloewm oxysporum* on, in N. America, 204.

—, *Urocystis tritici* can infect, 293.

—, *Ustilago bullata* on, in U.S.A., 294; control, 294.

—, *triticoides*, *Urocystis tritici* can infect, 293.

Emilia scabra, (?) virus disease of, in Ceylon, 89.

Empusa on aphids in Spain, 403.

—, *acarida* on *Halotydeus destructor* in Western Australia, 14.

—, *grylli* on locusts in China, 45.

—, *muscae* on *Cordyluridae* in China, 45.

Encelia kirschsteiniana synonym of *Phaciella discolor*, 225.

Endive (*Cichorium endivia*), *Sclerotinia minor* and *S. sclerotiorum* on, in Switzerland, 280.

Endoconidiophora adiposa, decomposition of sulphite liquors by, 277.

—, *coerulea* on timber in U.S.A., 175.

Endomyces capsulatus synonym of *Blastomyces dermatitidis*, 489.

—, var. *isabellinus* synonym of *Blastomyces dermatitidis*, 489.

—, *dermatitidis* a synonym of *Blastomyces dermatitidis* (q.v.), 489.

Endosclerotium pseudococciae on *Pseudococcus* in U.S.A., 332.

Endostigma synonym of *Spilosticta*, 225.

Endothia parasitica on chestnut in Canada, 544; in U.S.A., 4, 173, 310.

Entomophthora coronata on *Campanotus* in S. Africa, 15.

Entomosporium thuemenii on *Crataegus* in U.S.A., 434.

Endotyloma dahliae on *Dahlia* in Brazil, 246; Mauritius, 126; Venezuela, 324.

—, *oryzae* on rice in Venezuela, 324.

Epicauta pennsylvanica transmitting *Corynebacterium sepedonicum*, 501.

Epichloe cinerea on *Sporobolus indicus* in New S. Wales, 244.

—, *typhina* on *Festuca* in N.Z., 2.

Epidemophyton in relation to asthma and hay fever of man in U.S.A., 16.

—, on man in U.S.A., 139.

—, *floccosum* on man in Canada and U.S.A., 525.

—, tendril formation in, 200.

Epitrix cucumeris in relation to *Alternaria solani* on tomato, 269.

Ergot, see *Claviceps purpurea*.

Erianthus, *Sphaelotheca erianthi* on, in India, 305; *Ustilago erianthi* renamed, 305.

—, *arundinaceum*, *Sclerospora sacchari* on, in Queensland, 304.

—, *asper*, *Ustilago microthelia* on, in Brazil, 305.

—, *capensis*, (?) *Tilletia* on, in S. Africa, 305.

Eriobotrya japonica, see Loquat.

Erwinia amylovora on apple in U.S.A., 530.

—, on pear in U.S.A., 441.

—, serological study on, 186.

—, and *E. ananas*, taxonomy of, 282.

—, *aroideae*, serological study on, 325; taxonomy of, 282.

—, *carnegieana* on *Carnegiea gigantea* in U.S.A., 365, 518.

—, *carotovora* as a food for soil protozoa, 283.

—, in Portugal, 243.

—, on iris in Great Britain, 81.

—, on potato in Chile, 470.

—, serological study on, 325.

—, taxonomy of, 282.

—, *lathyri* on clover in U.S.A., 527.

—, taxonomy of, 282.

—, *melonis*, serological study on, 325.

—, *phytophthora* on potato in Brazil, 262; Chile, 470; U.S.A., 301; serological study on, 325; taxonomy of, 282.

—, *salicis*, taxonomy of, 282.

—, *solanisapra* as a food for soil protozoa, 283.

—, serological study on, 325.

—, *tracheiphila* as a food for soil protozoa, 283.

[*Erwinia tracheiphila*] on cucumber in U.S.A., 341; *Diabrotica melanocephala* in relation to, 341.
 — — —, taxonomy of, 282.
Erysiphe cheiranthoides, potato yellow dwarf can infect, 264.
Erysiphaceae, silicic acid in relation to resistance to, 266.
Erysiphe cichoracearum on cantaloupe in U.S.A., 4.
 — — — on melon in U.S.A., 353.
 — — — on phlox in U.S.A., 454.
 — — — *graminis* on barley in U.S.A., 329, 383.
 — — — on *Poa palustris* in U.S.A., 403.
 — — — on rye in Spain, 404.
 — — — on wheat, 521; in England, 35; S. Australia, 124; U.S.S.R., 191; breeding against, 124, 521; effect of lithium on, 35; overwintering of, 191; physiologic races of, 521; varietal reaction to, 124, 521.
 — — — *polygoni* on beans in U.S.A., 382; Venezuela, 360.
 — — — on clover in U.S.A., 22.
 — — — on cowpea in Tanganyika, 282.
 — — — on pea in U.S.A., 127.
 — — — on *Polygonum aviculare* in Canada, 261; spore germination of, 261; toxicity of vulcanized rubber to, 262.
Erythrina, *Cercospora erythrinae*, *Dicheirinia binata*, *Ganoderma*, *Metasphaeria*, *Pleurotus*, and *Polystictus* on, in Colombia, 8.
 — — — *glauca*, *Calostilbe striispora* on, in Trinidad, 281.
Eustafat, use of, against *Venturia inaequalis*, 377.
Ethylen in relation to sleepiness of carnations, 418.
Ethyl mercury chloride, use of, against *Ceratostomella pilifera* on timber, 436; *Fusarium bulbigenum* on *Narcissus*, 335; *Phoma* on wood pulp, 315.
 — — — —, see also Ceresan, Pulpasan.
 — — — phosphate, effect of, on germination of wheat, 285, 482; β -indolyl acetic acid in relation to, 285.
 — — — —, use of, with maize starch against maize seed diseases, 327.
 — — — —, see also Ceresan, new improved.
 — — — —, tartrate, use of, against *Alternaria brassicae*, *A. oleracea*, and *Rhizopus nigricans* on crucifer seeds, 246.
Eucalyptus, *Pestalozzia molleriana* on, in Uruguay, 130.
 — — — *Polyporus sulphureus* on, in U.S.A., 394.
 — — — virus disease of, in the Argentine, 481.
Euchlaena mexicana, *Puccinia polysora* on, in Guatemala, 73.
 — — — —, *Sclerospora sacchari* can infect, 347.
Eugenia aromatica, see Clove.
 — — — *jambolana* and *E. jambos*, *Clitocybe tabescens* on, in U.S.A., 497.
Euphorbia pulcherrima, *Sphaceloma* on, in Hawaii, 371; (?) U.S.A., 142.
 — — — var. *plenissima*, *Sphaceloma poinsettiae* on, in U.S.A., 455.
Eutettix tenellus transmitting beet curly top, 230, 477, 511.
Eutypella parasitica on *Acer saccharinum* in Canada, 54.
Fabraea maculata on apple in Brazil, 246.
Fagaceae, mycorrhiza of, in U.S.A., 313.
Fagus, see Beech.
Fermate, see Iron dimethyl dithiocarbamate.
Ferric, see Iron.
Ferrous, see Iron.

Fertilizers, effect of, on *Actinomyces scabies* on potato, 409; *Alternaria* on cotton, 415; apple breakdown, 3; beet damping-off, 60; *Fusarium bulbigenum* var. *lycopersici*, 269; *F. bulbigenum* var. *niveum* f. 2 on cantaloupe, 438; *F. vasinfectum* on cotton, 74, 414, 451; *Ophiobolus graminis* on wheat, 124, 445, 510; *Phoma betae*, 510; *Phymatotrichum omnivorum*, 127; pine needle fusion, 407; *Pythium* and *Rhizoctonia* on beet, 510; *Sclerotinia* on endive, 280; *Sclerotium rolfsii* on beet, 399.

Festuca, *Claviceps purpurea* on, in New Zealand, 205.
 — — — *arundinacea*, *Claviceps purpurea* on, in New Zealand, 452.
 — — — *capillata*, *Uromyces festucae* f. sp. *ovinae* can infect, 203.
 — — — *duriuscula*, *Uromyces festucae* f. sp. *ovinae* on, in Switzerland, 203.
 — — — *elatior*, *Epichloe typhina* and (?) *Helotium* on, in New Zealand, 2.
 — — — *halleri*, *Uromyces festucae* f. sp. *rupicaprina* can infect, 203.
 — — — *ovina*, *Uromyces festucae* f. sp. *ovinae* can infect, 203.
 — — — *pradensis*, *Epichloe typhina* and (?) *Helotium* on, in New Zealand, 2.
 — — — *rubra*, *Uromyces festucae* f. sp. *rubrae* can infect, 203.
 — — — var. *communitata*, *Pythium arrhenomanes* on, in U.S.A., 367.
 — — — *rupicaprina*, *Uromyces festucae* f. sp. *rupicaprina* on, in Switzerland, 203.
Ficus carica, boron excess in, in U.S.A., 26.
 — — — *Cephalosporium acremonium* on, in U.S.A., 31.
 — — — *Cercospora bolleana* on, in Hawaii, 350.
 — — — *Cerotilium fuscum* on, in Iran, 99.
 — — — *Corticium microcleratia* on, in U.S.A., 296.
 — — — *stevensii* on, in U.S.A., 206, 206; *C. kolerogii* distinct from, 297.
 — — — *Glibberella fujikuroi* on, in Brazil, 246.
Filberts, see *Corylus*.
Fir, see *Abies*.
Fish, *Saprolegnia parasitica* on, in Portugal, 243.
 — — oil, use of, as a spray supplement, 318.
Fistulina hepatica on oak in U.S.A., 390.
Flax (*Linum usitatissimum*), *Alternaria tenuis* on, in Germany, 453.
 — — — *Aspergillus*, *Bacillus mesentericus*, and *Bacterium herbicola* on, in Australia, 370.
 — — — *Candida vulgaris* on, in Germany, 453.
 — — — *Cladosporium herbarum* on, in Australia, 370; Germany, 453.
 — — — *Colletotrichum lini* on, 489.
 — — — foot rot in New Zealand, 3.
 — — — *Fusarium lini* on, in the Argentine, 246; Canada, 256; New Zealand, 3; U.S.A., 386, 418; factors affecting, 386; nature of resistance to, 256; varietal reaction to, 256, 418.
 — — — var. *scirpi* var. *acuminatum* on, in the Argentine, 200.
 — — — *Melampsora lini* on, in the Argentine, 246; Australia, 256, 490; Germany, 489; New Zealand, 3; U.S.A., 80, 256, 291, 418; Western Australia, 454; control, 256, 291, 454; genetics of resistance to, 80; physiologic races of, 489; varietal reaction to, 80, 256, 418, 490.
 — — — *Mucor* on, in Australia, 370.
 — — — *mucedo*, *M. plumbeus*, and *Penicillium luteum* on, in Germany, 453.
 — — — *Polyphora lini* on, 489; in New Zealand, 3, 334.
 — — — *Pulularia pullulans* and *Rhizopus nigricans* on, in Australia, 370.
 — — — *Sphaerella linorum* on, in the Argentine, 246;

New Zealand, 3; Peru, 352; U.S.A., 5, 418; legislation against, in Peru, 352.

[*Flax*], *Stachybotrys* and *Torula* on, in Australia, 370.

—, zinc deficiency in, in Victoria, 483.

—, see also Linseed.

Fluorine-chromium-arsenic-dinitro mixture, use of, as a timber preservative, 277.

Fluralsil, use of, as a timber preservative, 277.

Foeniculum vulgare, *Corticium solani* on, in U.S.A., 221.

—, *Uromyces graminis* on, in Portugal, 303; transmission of, to *Melica ciliata*, 303.

Fomes annosus on *Derris elliptica* in Sumatra, 323.

— on larch in England, 234.

— on *Pseudotsuga taxifolia* in Canada, 544.

— on spruce in England, 234.

— on timber, penetration of, 110.

— on *Teuva (?) heterophylla* in Canada, 544.

— on wood pulp, 357.

— everhartii on oak in U.S.A., 396.

— *fomentarius*, geographical distribution of, 475.

— on beech, birch, and poplar in U.S.A., 475-6.

— *fraxinophilus* on ash and *Shepherdia argentea* in U.S.A., 397.

— *geotropus* on oak in U.S.A., 396.

— *hartigii* a variant of *F. robustus*, 267.

— on *Abies alba* in Austria, 56.

— *igniarius* on aspen in U.S.A., 314.

— on timber, biochemistry of, 232.

— var. *laevigatus* in relation to *Poria spiculosa*, 271.

— *lignosus* on *Hevea* rubber in Ceylon, 97; Malaya, 390; Sumatra, 323.

— on *Shorea robusta* in India, 399.

— on *Tephrosia candida* in Sumatra, 323.

— on *Uncaria gambier* in Sumatra, 324.

— *noxius* on *Leucaena glauca* in Sumatra, 324.

— on oil palm in Malaya, 66; Sumatra, 323.

— on tea in Sumatra, 324.

— *pinii* on spruce in Canada, 57.

— on timber, 110; in Canada, 476.

— *pinicola* on spruce in Canada, 57.

— *robustus*, *F. hartigii* a variant of, 267.

— on oak in Austria, 56; U.S.A., 396.

Fonsecaea pedrosoi on man in Cuba, 289.

— var. *cladodiploides* on man in Mexico, 254; *Hormodendrum algeriensis* synonym of, 254.

Formaldehyde, toxicity of, to *Fusarium oxy-sporum* var. *cubense*, 340; *Sclerotium rolfsii*, 127.

—, use of, against apple storage disorders, 457; *Colletotrichum lini*, 489; *Corynebacterium michiganense*, 353; *Polyspora lini*, 489; potato seed piece decay, 345; *Sclerotinia minor* and *S. sclerotiorum* on endive, 280; *Ustilago avenae* and *U. kolleri*, 124, 328; *Verticillium albo-atrum* on tomato, 3; *Xanthomonas malvacearum*, 363.

Fragaria virus 5, see Strawberry 'stunt'.

— *vesca*, see Strawberry.

Fraxinus, see Ash.

Fruit, bottled, *Byssochlamys fulva* on, 206.

— trees, frost injury to, in England, 372.

Fumago vagans on wooden spools in Germany, 453.

Fumigatin, 344.

Fungi, entomogenous, of N. America, list of, 288.

—, heterocaryous in, 535.

—, heterothallic in, 213.

— in the air in U.S.A., 290.

— in relation to respiratory diseases of man, review of, 79.

[Fungi], key to families of, 44.

—, list of, in Austria, 226; Brazil, 225; California, 394; Central America, 472; China, 45; Colombia, 99; Denmark, 429; Ecuador, 163; Florida, 504; Georgia, 100; Great Britain, 164; Iran, 99; N. America, 288; the Philippines, 47; Portugal, 243, 266, 504; the Punjab, 164; S. Africa, 46, 47; S. America, 472; U.S.A., 15, 47, 337; Victoria, 472.

—, nomenclature of, note on, 427.

—, predaceous, in U.S.A., 77.

—, spore dispersal in, 385.

—, variation in, in relation to taxonomy, 306; types of, 306.

—, vitamin deficiency in, 468.

Fungicides, flowability and density of, 32.

—, method for evaluating, 211.

—, specifications for, in Victoria, 340.

—, tenacity of, 341.

Fusariol, use of, against *Alternaria zinniae*, 492.

Fusarium, decomposition of sulphite liquors by, 278.

— in the air in U.S.A., 290.

— on *Agrostis vulgaris* in U.S.A., 142.

— on *Atropa belladonna* in U.S.A., 222.

— on banana in Australia, 31.

— on barley, 10; in Canada, 366.

— on *Cicer arietinum* in India, 1, 120.

— on clover in U.S.A., 527.

— on coffee in Puerto Rico, 408.

— on date palm in U.S.A., 195.

— on *Digitalis purpurea* in U.S.A., 222.

— on groundnut in Jamaica, 242; Kenya, 439; U.S.A., 361.

— on lentils in India, 1.

— on maize in Canada, 448; U.S.A., 72.

— on *Nepeta cataria* in U.S.A., 221.

— on oats, 10; in Canada, 366.

— on orchid in Puerto Rico, 202.

— on papaw in Hawaii, 150.

— on pine in Canada, 508; U.S.A., 174.

— on potato in India, 2; U.S.A., 301.

— on spruce in Canada, 508.

— on walnut in U.S.A., 311.

— on wheat, 10; in Australia, 250, 406; Canada, 121, 366; detection of, 10; varietal reaction to, 250.

—, taxonomy of, 223, 428.

— *avenaceum*, effect of biotin on growth of, 12; of light on taxonomic characters of, 215.

— on potato in U.S.A., 158.

— *bulbigenum* on *Narcissus* in U.S.A., 335.

— var. *batatas* on sweet potato in U.S.A., 360.

— var. *lycopersici* on *Lycopersicum pimpinellifolium* in U.S.A., 393.

— — — on tomato, 393; in Brazil, 246; England, 212; Italy, 543; U.S.A., 127, (?), 269, 353, 386, 393, 432, 543; breeding against, 393, 543; culture of, 393; factors affecting, 269, 386; varietal reaction to, 127, 432, 543.

— var. *niveum*, effect of light on taxonomic characters of, 215.

— — —, lysis in, 261.

— — — on squash in U.S.A., 442.

— — — on watermelon in U.S.A., 362, 440, 442.

— — — f. 2 on cantaloupe in U.S.A., 438.

— *chlamydosporum* on cotton in U.S.A., 332.

— *coeruleum* on potato in U.S.A., 301.

— *conglutinans* on cabbage in U.S.A., 341.

— *culturorum* on *Echinochloa crus-galli* in U.S.A., 21; *Anacanthrinus deplanatus* in relation to, 21.

— — — on wheat, 134.

[*Fusarium*] *equiseti* on carnation in the Argentine, 200.
 — var. *bullatum* on cotton in U.S.A., 332.
 — *lactis* in butter in Germany, 334.
 (?) — *lateritium* on *Aleurites* in Nyasaland, 4.
 — — on apple in New Zealand, 3.
 — *lini*, growth of, in soil, 470.
 — —, lysis in, 261.
 — — on flax in the Argentine, 246; Canada, 256; New Zealand, 3; U.S.A., 386, 418; factors affecting, 386; nature of resistance to, 256; varietal reaction to, 256, 418.
 — *maritii* on beans in Chile, 443.
 — *merismoides* on beet in Germany, 113.
 — *niveum*, see *F. bulbigenum* var. *niveum*.
 — *orthoceras* var. *ciceri* on *Cicer arietinum* in India, 1; *Aspergillus* and *Trichoderma* antagonistic to, 1.
 — *oxysporum* can infect pea, 236.
 — — on asparagus in U.S.A., 236.
 — — on lupin in Rumania, 405.
 — — on potato in U.S.A., 39, 158.
 — — f. 2 on sweet potato in U.S.A., 360.
 — — f. *barbati* n.f. on *Dianthus barbatus* in U.S.A., 142.
 — — f. *niveum*, see *F. bulbigenum* var. *niveum*.
 — — var. *cubeense* on banana in India, 440; Jamaica, 241, 340, 534; St. Lucia, 534; Trinidad, 534; Venezuela, 324; breeding against, 534; control, 340; varietal reaction to, 440.
 — — — — on *Musatephilis* in the Philippines, 66.
 — — var. *nicotianae* on tobacco in U.S.A., 516.
 — — *scirpi* on cotton in U.S.A., 331.
 — — var. *acuminatum* on carnation in the Argentine, 200.
 — — — — on cotton in U.S.A., 332.
 — — — — on flax in the Argentine, 200.
 — — *semitectum* on cotton in U.S.A., 332.
 — — *solani*, effect of light on taxonomic characters of, 215.
 — — — — lysis in, 261.
 — — — — on cotton in U.S.A., 332.
 — — — — on potato in U.S.A., 39.
 — — — f. *cucurbitae*, effect of light on taxonomic characters of, 215.
 — — — var. *eumartii* on potato in U.S.A., 39, 158, 301.
 (?) — — var. *martii* on holly in U.S.A., 19.
 — — — — f. 2 on pea in U.S.A., 245.
 — — *vasinfectum* on cotton, 198; in the Argentine, 417; U.S.A., 74, 197, 332, 414, 440, 450; breeding against, 198; control, 74, 414; factors affecting, 74, 451; varietal reaction to, 197, 414, 440, 450.
 — — — — on pigeon pea in India, 363.
Fuscidium saliciperdum on *Salix* in Canada, 172, 544.
Fusicoccum ellisianum on oak in U.S.A., 272.
Fusoma bispetatum, *F. psilicense*, and *F. trisetatum* synonyms of *Septogloeum oxysporum*, 204.
Galinsoga ciliata, potato yellow dwarf can infect, 264.
Ganoderma on *Erythrina* in Colombia, 8.
 — *appianatum* on oak in U.S.A., 396.
 — *lucidum* on areca palm and coco-nut in India, 251.
 — — — — on oak in U.S.A., 396.
 — — — — pigment of, 36.
Garlic (*Allium sativum*), yellow dwarf of, in Portugal, 243.
Garrya elliptica and *G. flavescens* var. *buxifolia*, *Dothichiza garryae* on, in U.S.A., 394.
Gaultheria shallon, *Pestalopeziza brunneopruinosa* on, in U.S.A., 504.
Geotrichum candidum on wood pulp in Sweden, 58.
Geranium carolinianum, *Peronospora geranii* on, in U.S.A., 499.
Germanium, use of, against *Bacterium tumefaciens*, 266.
Germisan, use of, against *Alternaria zinniae*, 492; *Fusarium oxysporum* on lupin, 405.
Gibberella fujikuroi in soil in relation to erosion, 221.
 — — — — on cotton in U.S.A., 14, 196, 331, 414, 451; statistical study on, 196; varietal reaction to, 451.
 — — — — on fig in Brazil, 246.
 — — — — on maize in Canada, 121; U.S.A., 72, 246, 286, 367; control, 72; factors affecting, 72, 286.
 — — — — on *Pennisetum typhoides* and sorghum in India, 161.
 — — — — on sugar-cane in Cuba, 99; Hawaii, 350; India, 161.
 — — — var. *subglutinans* on maize, 72; U.S.A., 286.
 — — *saubinetii*, lysis in, 261.
 — — — — on barley in U.S.A., 70, 326; toxicity of, to pigs, 70.
 — — — — on *Echinochloa crus-galli* in U.S.A., 21; *Anacinetinus deplanatus* in relation to, 21.
 — — — — on maize in Canada, 121; U.S.A., 72, 368, 386; control, 72; factors affecting, 386.
 — — — — on *Phragmites* in Great Britain, 165.
 — — — — on wheat in U.S.A., 386.
 — — *zeae*, see *G. saubinetii*.
Ginger (*Zingiber officinale*), *Phyllosticta zingiberi* on, in India, 471.
 — — *Pythium* on, in India, 364.
 — — — — *myriotylum* on, in Ceylon, 66.
Ginkgo biloba, *Xylaria* (?) *longeana* on, in U.S.A., 273.
Gladiolus, diseases of, in U.S.A., 201.
 — — mosaic in Venezuela, 324.
 — — *Papulaspora gladioli* on, *Urocystis gladioli* in relation to, 258.
 — — *Septoria gladioli* on, in Uruguay, 130.
 — — *Urocystis gladioli* on, *Papulaspora gladioli* in relation to, 258.
 — — *ludwigii*, *Puccinia mcleanii* on, in S. Africa, 47.
Glenospora brevis and *G. gammeli* synonyms of *Blastomyces dermatitidis*, 489.
Gliocladium fimbriatum toxin (gliotoxin), 155, 216.
Gloeosporium on apple in New S. Wales, 407.
 — — — — on banana in Queensland, 87; latent infection by, 87.
 — — — — on groundnut in Jamaica, 242.
 — — — — on orchid in Puerto Rico, 202.
 — — — — on pear in N. America, 531.
 — — — — on walnut in U.S.A., 311.
 — — *ferrugineum* on *Rhododendron punctatum* in U.S.A., 47.
 — — *lunatum* on *Opuntia* in Australia, 33.
 — — *musarum* on banana in Australia, 31; Queensland, 184; Venezuela, 324.
 — — *nicolai*, *Milesina scolopendrii* wrongly identified as, 455.
 — — *olivarum* on olive in Portugal, 243, 496; Spain, 403; U.S.A., 534.
 — — *populatum* on *Rubus canadensis* in U.S.A., 47.
 — — *polypodii*, *Milesina dieteliana* and ? *M. whitei* wrongly identified as, 455.
Glomerella, segregation types of, 425.

[*Glomerella*] *cingulata*, non-toxicity of copper xanthates to, 498.
 — on apple, 383, 464; in (?) England, 419; U.S.A., 145, 420, 441; control, 383, 420, 464; types of, 145.
 — on mango in Portugal, 504.
 — on vine in U.S.A., 318.
 — *gossypii* on cotton in the Argentine, 417; U.S.A., 14, 196, 331, 414, 451; statistical study on, 196; varietal reaction to, 451.
 Gloss oil, use of, as a timber preservative, 311.
 Glucose, use of, against damping-off of trees, 105.
 Glue, use of, as an adhesive, 341.
 Glues for timber, attack of, by microorganisms, 437.
Glyceria fluitans, *Claviceps purpurea* on, in New Zealand, 452.
Glycine max, see Soy-bean.
 Gooseberry (*Ribes grossularia*), *Mycosphaerella grossulariae* on, in New Zealand, 29.
 —, *Pseudopeziza ribis* on, in England, 24; Switzerland, 280.
 —, *Sphaerotheca mors-uvae* on, in U.S.A., 245.
 —, *Stereum purpureum* and *Verticillium albo-atrum* on, in New Zealand, 29.
Gossypium, see Cotton.
 Gramicidin, 248.
 Grapefruit (*Citrus paradisi*), *Boletus tropicus* and other fungi in relation to *Pseudococcus* on, in Brazil, 414.
 —, *Clitocybe tabescens* on, in U.S.A., 497.
 —, *Elsinoe fawcetti* on, in Trinidad, 281.
 —, magnesium deficiency in, in U.S.A., 524.
 —, *Pestalotia citri* on, in India, 504.
 —, *Phytophthora parasitica* on, in U.S.A., 486.
 — root rot in the Argentine, 485.
 —, *Rosellinia bunodes* on, in W. Indies, 162.
 —, *Septoria (?) citri* on, in U.S.A., 73.
Graphium rigidum on timber in U.S.A., 175.
 Grasselli compound A, use of, against *Septoria lycopersici*, 245.
 — spreader, 63, 310.
 Grasses, *Cerebella inquinans* on, in Queensland, 526; *Claviceps* in relation to, 526.
 —, *Claviceps* on, in Queensland, 82.
 —, — *purpurea* on, in U.S.A., 337.
 —, copper deficiency in, in Western Australia, 372.
 —, diseases of, in U.S.A., 337, 493.
 —, *Puccinia* on, *Darluca filum* parasitizing, in U.S.A., 493.
 —, *Pythium arrhenomanes* on, in U.S.A., 366.
 —, — *de Baryanum* on, in U.S.A., 367.
 —, (?) *Typhula* on, in Canada, 143.
Grevillea robusta, *Cercospora* on, in India, 48.
 Grey speck, see Manganese deficiency.
Grossularia divaricata, see *Ribes*.
 Groundnut (*Arachis hypogaea*), *Cercospora arachidicola* on, in U.S.A., 65, 126, 402.
 —, — *personata* on, in Jamaica, 242; U.S.A., 65, 126, 361, 402; control, 65, 126, 402.
 —, *Fusarium* on, in Jamaica, 242; Kenya, 439; U.S.A., 361.
 —, *Gloeosporium* on, in Jamaica, 242.
 —, *Macrophomina phaseoli* on, in India, 363.
 —, new disease of, in U.S.A., 119.
 —, (?) *Phoma* on, in Jamaica, 242.
 —, *Puccinia arachidis* on, in Jamaica, 242; U.S.A., 362.
 — rosette in Gambia, 65; Nyasaland, 4.
 —, *Sclerotium rolfsii* on, in Jamaica, 242; (?) the Philippines, 66; U.S.A., 361.
 —, *Sphaceloma arachidis* on, in Brazil, 239.
 —, virus disease of, in Brazil, 119.

Growth substances in relation to *Achyla*, 342; *Bacterium tumefaciens*, 67; *Diplodia macrospora*, 330; filamentous fungi, 468; *Pythium*, 91.
 Guava (*Psidium guajava*), *Clitocybe tabescens* on, in U.S.A., 497.
 —, *Corticium stevensii* on, in U.S.A., 206.
Guignardia bedwellii on vine in Chile, 443; U.S.A., 318; Venezuela, 324.
 — *camelliae* on tea in Japan, 166.
Gymnosporangium juniperi-virginianae on apple in U.S.A., 245.
Halesia carolina, *Cercospora halesiae* on, in U.S.A., 47.
Halotydeus destructor, *Empusa acarida* on, in Western Australia, 14.
Haplographium on *Calophyllum inophyllum* var. *tacamaha* in Mauritius, 126.
 — *ponderosum* and *H. tandonii* on *Aracia leucocephala* in India, 233.
Harposporium diceraeum, *H. helicoides*, and *H. oxyacrum* on nematodes in U.S.A., 15.
Helenium, *Septoria heleni* on, in England, 141.
Helianthus annuus, see Sunflower.
 — *tuberosus*, diseases of, in Great Britain, 316.
Helichrysum bracteatum, *Verticillium albo-atrum* on, in U.S.A., 202; host range of, 202.
 —, —, wilt of, in U.S.A., 202.
 (?) — *monstrosum*, tobacco leaf curl can infect, 167.
Helicobasidium purpureum in Scotland, 439.
 —, — on asparagus, beet, and carrot in Germany, 65.
 —, — on potato, legislation against, in Uruguay, 240.
 Helione orange, use of, against *Phytophthora cactorum* on trees, 394.
Helminthosporium on barley in the Argentine, 246.
 — on pear in N. America, 531.
 — on *Pennisetum purpureum* in Ceylon, 66.
 — on sugar-cane in Cuba, 99.
 — on wheat in Australia, 406.
 — *avenae* on oats in Canada, 366.
 — *bicolor* on maize in Canada, 448.
 — *cymbopogii* on *Cymbopogon citratus* and *Cymbopogon nardus* subsp. *genuinus* in Guatemala, 419.
 — *gramineum* on barley in the Argentine, 518; U.S.A., 445.
 — *maydis* on maize in Canada, 448; U.S.A., 71.
 — *pedicellatum* on *Echinochloa crus-galli* in U.S.A., 21; *Anacanthrinus deplanatus* in relation to, 21.
 — *ravenelii* on *Sporobolus heterolepis* in Uruguay, 129; geographical distribution of, 129.
 — *sacchari* on *Pennisetum purpureum* in Hawaii, 21, 258, 371.
 —, — on sugar-cane in Cuba, 98; Hawaii, 349, (?) 350.
 — *sativum* on barley in the Argentine, 518; Canada, 366; U.S.S.R., 9.
 —, — on *Echinochloa crus-galli* in U.S.A., 21; *Anacanthrinus deplanatus* in relation to, 21.
 —, — on maize in U.S.A., 72.
 —, — on rye in Canada, 366.
 —, — on wheat in the Argentine, 518; Canada, 121, 366; U.S.S.R., 9; control, 9.
 — *setariae*, see *Ophiobolus setariae*.
 — *teres* on barley in Canada, 366; U.S.A., 329.
 —, — on wheat in the Argentine, 518.
Helotium on *Lolium multiflorum* and *L. perenne*, see *Phiala mucosa* on.

Hemileia vastatrix on coffee in the Cameroons and French Equatorial Africa, 524; Tanganyika, 281.
Hendersonia on orchid in Puerto Rico, 202.
 — on pear in N. America, 531.
 — *magnoliae* on *Magnolia grandiflora* in U.S.A., 53.
Heptyl aldehyde, effect of, on *Bacterium tumefaciens* tumours, 248.
Hevea brasiliensis, see Rubber.
Hibiscus esculentus, yellow vein mosaic of, in India, 342; transmission of, by *Bemisia gossypiperda*, 342.
 — *rosa-sinensis*, *Clitocybe tabescens* on, in U.S.A., 497.
 — —, *Rosellinia bunodes* on, in W. Indies, 162.
Hickory (Carya), *Peria spiculosa* on, in U.S.A., 270; *Fomes ignarius* var. *laevigatus* and *P. prunicola* in relation to, 271.
Himantia stellifera on sugar-cane in Brazil, 246.
Hippeastrum, *Stagonospora curtisii* on, in U.S.A., 18.
Hippopongia, see Sponge.
Histoplasma capsulatum, culture of, on chick membrane, 79.
 — — on man in S. America, 333; U.S.A., 255, 290, 488.
Holcus lanatus, *Claviceps purpurea* on, in New Zealand, 452.
Holly (Flex), (?) *Fusarium solani* var. *martii* on, in U.S.A., 19.
 — —, *Macromphoma ilicella*, *Phoma ilicina*, *Physalospora ilicis*, and *Trochila ilicis* on, in U.S.A., 394-5.
Hollyhock (Althaea), leaf curl of, in Africa, 168.
Hops (Humulus lupulus), *Pseudoperonospora humuli* on, in U.S.A., 63, 245; method for estimating infection by, 391.
 — —, *Sphaerotheca humuli* on, in U.S.A., 246.
Hordeum murinum, bends disease of, in U.S.A., 493.
 — — subsp. *leporinum*, *Puccinia anomala* on, in Uruguay, 129.
 — — *nodosum*, *Urocystis agropyri* on, in U.S.A., 294; transmission of, to *Agropyron caninum* and *Elymus canadensis*, 294; *U. tritici* referred to, 294.
 — —, *Ustilago bullata* on, in U.S.A., 294.
 — — *vulgaris*, see Barley.
Hormiscium gelatinosum on timber, 436.
Hormodendrum in the air in U.S.A., 16, 290, 370.
 — in relation to asthma and hay fever of man in Cuba, 452; U.S.A., 16.
 — on cheese, effect of ultra-violet rays on, 80.
 — on cherry in U.S.A., 532.
 — *algeriensis* synonym of *Fonsecaea pedrosoi* var. *cladosporioides*, 254.
 — *cladosporioides* on pear in N. America, 531.
 — *pedrosoi* on man in Cuba, 289.
Hormonema on timber in Finland, 59.
 — *dematioides* and *H. pullulans* synonyms of *Pullularia pullulans*, 356.
Horse-radish (Cochlearia armoracia), diseases of, in Great Britain, 316.
Hortosan B, use of, as a cotton seed treatment, 525.
Hot-water seed treatment against *Cercospora sesami*, 44; *Ustilago nuda*, 252; *U. tritici*, 252, 327, 412; *Xanthomonas campestris* on *Mathiola incana*, 291.
 — treatment against aster yellows on *Vinca rosea*, 257; sugar-cane chlorotic streak, 350; sugar-cane diseases, 348.
Huonius lupulus, see Hops.
Hyalopus in the air in U.S.A., 290.
Hydnellum erinaceus on oak in U.S.A., 396.
Hydrangea hortensis, *Cercospora hydrangeana* on, in the Philippines, 47.
Hydrochloric acid, use of, against *Ceratostomella pilifera* on timber, 436; potato seed piece decay, 345.
Hydrogen fluoride injury to trees in Sweden, 151.
 — ion concentration of soil in relation to *Actinomyces scabies*, 470; calcium deficiency in clover, 300; rye disease in Spain, 403.
Hydroquinone, use of, against X disease of peach, 296.
Hydroxyquinoline sulphate, 8-, use of, against X disease of peach, 296.
Hydrangea rufipes in relation to *Ceratostomella ulmi* on elm, 104, 106.
Hyoscyamus niger, *Bacterium solanacearum* on, in U.S.A., 221.
Hypomycetes on nematodes, list of, in U.S.A., 15.
Hypocreales, list of, in Great Britain, 164.
Ibis, use of, against *Mycosphaerella pinodes* on pea, 185.
Igepon-T, use of, as a spreader, 341.
Ilex, see Holly.
IN870, use of, against *Coccomyces hiemalis*, 245; *Gymnosporangium* on apple, 245; *Venturia inaequalis*, 245.
Indoly-acetic acid, β , effect of, on ethyl mercury phosphate damage to wheat, 285.
 — —, —, use of, with fungicidal dusts, 483.
Iodine, use of, against *Actinomyces scabies* on potato, 95; *Corynebacterium sepedonicum* on potato, 94; *Bacterium tumefaciens* on *Prunus*, 130; grape moulds, 407.
Ipomoea batatas, see Sweet potato.
Iris, *Botrytis* (?) *cinerea*, *Didymellina* (?) *macrospora*, *Erwinia carotovora*, and *Puccinia iridis* on, in Great Britain, 81.
 — —, *Sclerotium tuliparum* on, in Canada, 122.
 — — scorch in Great Britain, 81.
Iron deficiency in *Ailanthis altissima*, 53; cantaloupe in U.S.A., 438; *Catalpa speciosa* and elm, 53.
 — — excess in beans in New S. Wales, 62.
 — — in relation to blackening of potatoes on boiling, 41; reclamation disease of oats and rye, 11.
 — — chromium, use of, as a textile preservative, 261.
 — — dimethyldithiocarbamate (ferric), use of, against *Coccomyces hiemalis*, 296, 384; *Peronospora tabacina*, 506; *Sclerotinia fructicola* and *S. laxa* on stone fruits, 384.
 — — sulphate (ferrous), use of, against damping-off of pine, 174.
Isariopsis clavigpora on vine in U.S.A., 318.
 — — *fuckelii* on vine in S. Africa, 278.
Ischaemum pilosum, *Sphacelia sorghi* on, in India, 485.
Ischnaspis longirostris, *Septobasidium bogoriense* on, in Dutch E. Indies, 137.
Jasminum grandiflorum, *Clitocybe tabescens* on, in U.S.A., 497.
 — — *simplicifolium*, *Lambertella* on, in Bermuda, 321.
Jatropha curcas, *Clitocybe tabescens* on, in U.S.A., 497.
Jerusalem artichoke, see *Helianthus tuberosus*.
Johnson grass, see *Sorghum halepense*.
Juglans, see Walnut.
Jute sandbags, rot-proofing of, 214; in New Zealand, 261.

Kabatiella microsticta on lily of the valley in Czechoslovakia and U.S.A., 336.

Kalanchoe daigremontiana, *Bacterium tumefaciens* on, 247.

—, potato yellow dwarf affecting, in U.S.A., 264.

Kloeckeraspora apiculata on man in Germany, 79.

Kohlrabi (*Brassica oleracea* var. *caulorapa*), boron deficiency in, control, 510.

Ky 5, see *Pentachlorophenol*.

Labyrinthula (?) *macrocystis* on *Zostera marina* in Canada and U.S.A., 298.

Lactuca, see *Lettuce*.

Lagerstroemia, *Uncinula australiana* on, in Hawaii, 350.

Lambertella on (?) *Citharexylum spinosum*, *Jasminum simplicifolium*, and loquat in Bermuda, 321.

— *corni-maris* on apple in U.S.A., 337.

Larch (*Larix*), *Boletus elegans* on, forming mycorrhiza, 388.

—, — (?) *viscidus* on, forming mycorrhiza, 389.

— chlorosis in England, 234.

—, *Chondrostoma laricis* on, in Germany, 306.

— die-back in England, 234.

—, *Fomes annosus* on, in England, 234.

—, *Macrophomina phaseoli* can infect, 275.

—, *Mycelium radicis atrovirens* and *Paxillus involutus* on, forming mycorrhiza, 389.

—, *Polyporus schweinitzii* on, in England, 234.

Larix, see *Larch*.

Lathyrus odoratus, see *Sweet pea*.

—, *pusillus*, bean leaf wilt virus affecting, transmission of, by *Myzus persicae*, 388.

Laurocerasus caroliniana, *Clitocybe tabescens* on, in U.S.A., 497.

Lawsonia alba, *Pestalotia lawsoniae* on, in India, 505.

Lead, red, use of, as a wound dressing, 531.

— arsenate, use of, with fungicides, 295, 308, 318, 377, 420.

— oleate, use of, for rot-proofing cotton textiles, 451.

— paint, use of, as a wound dressing, 276.

Legislation against plant diseases in the Argentine, 352; Canada, 112; Colombia, 279; Cuba, 352; England, 64; Germany, 320; the Gold Coast, 544; India, 464; Malta, 352; Peru, 352; Queensland, 503; Rumania, 279; S. Africa, 240; Uruguay, 240, 352.

— against seed borne diseases, 112.

—, see also *Plant quarantine*.

Lemon (*Citrus limonia*), *Botryosphaeria ribis* on, in Brazil, 524.

—, *Elsinoe favicetti* on, in Venezuela, 324.

—, *Phytophthora citrophthora* on, in the Argentine, 185, 195.

—, *parasitica* on, in the Argentine, 195.

—, *Pseudomonas syringae* on, in Portugal, 243.

—, *Xanthomonas citri* on, in (?) Spain, 352.

Lentils (*Lens esculenta*), *Fusarium* on, in India, 1.

—, pea mottle can infect, 293.

Lentinus lepideus on timber in Canada, 476.

— *squamulosus* on timber, 436.

— *tigrinus* on oak in U.S.A., 396.

Lenzites on timber in Finland, 59.

— *abietina* on timber, 436.

— *betulina* on wood pulp, 357.

— *sepiaria* on pine in India, 399.

— on timber in Canada, 476; U.S.A., 397.

— *trabea* on timber, 110; in Canada, 476.

Leonurus cardiaca, potato yellow dwarf can infect, 264.

Lepidium campestre, potato yellow dwarf can infect, 264.

— *sativum*, see *Cress*.

— *virginicum*, *Peronospora parasitica* on, in U.S.A., 499.

—, potato yellow dwarf can infect, 264.

Leptinotarsa decemlineata transmitting *Corynebacterium sepedonicum*, 501.

Leptosphaeria coniothyrium on raspberry in New Zealand, 28.

—, *Rhopographus chorinensis* referred to, 225.

— *pratensis* on lucerne and *Melilotus* in Canada, 121.

— *sacchari* on sugar-cane in Cuba, 98; Venezuela, 324.

Leptostromella bignoniae on *Bignonia capreolata* in U.S.A., 47.

Leptothyrium parvulum on *Rhododendron punctatum* in U.S.A., 47.

— *pomi* on apple in India, 145.

Lespedeza, calcium, phosphorus, and potassium deficiencies in, in U.S.A., 337.

Lethalate, use of, as a spreader, 341.

Lettuce (*Lactuca sativa* and *L. scariola*), big vein of, in U.S.A., 513.

—, boron deficiency in, molybdenum in relation to, 317.

—, *Botrytis cinerea* and *Bremia lactucae* on, in England, 479.

—, *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum* on, in New S. Wales, 440.

—, *Septoria lactucae* on, in Ceylon, 182; China, 45.

—, tomato spotted wilt affecting, in New S. Wales, 244; hosts of, 244.

Leucaena glauca, *Fomes noxius*, *Rosellinia arcuata*, and *R. bunodes* on, in Sumatra, 324.

Leucothoe catesbaei, *Cercospora leucothoe* on, in U.S.A., 20.

Light, effect of, on taxonomic characters in *Fusarium*, 215.

Lightning injury to tomato in U.S.A., 231.

Lignasan, use of, against *Polystictus versicolor* and *Pullularia pululans* on wood pulp, 314.

Ligniera vascularum on sugar-cane in Puerto Rico and Venezuela, 351.

Ligustrum, see *Privet*.

Lily (*Lilium*) mosaic in Mauritius, 126; virus of, affecting tulip in U.S.A., 17.

— yellow flat, 291.

Lily of the valley (*Convallaria majalis*), *Ascochyta majalis* on, in U.S.A., 335.

—, *Kabatiella microsticta* on, in Czechoslovakia and U.S.A., 336.

Lima bean, see *Phaseolus lunatus*.

Lime (*Citrus aurantiifolia*), *Botryosphaeria ribis* on, in Brazil, 524.

—, *Oospora citri-aurantii* on, in Brazil, Cuba, Guatemala, Haiti, and Mexico, 352.

—, *Phytophthora parasitica* on, in the Argentine, 195.

— root disease in Trinidad, 281.

Lime, use of, against *Septoria lycopersici*, 5.

Lime-sulphur, effect of, on photosynthesis in apple, 530.

—, — injury, 375, 377, 378, 420.

Lime tree (*Tilia*), *Mycosphaerella microsora* on, in Germany, 306; perfect stage of *Cercospora microsora*, 306.

Linaria dalmatica, *Myzus persicae* injury to, in U.S.A., 257.

Linseed (*Linum usitatissimum*), *Oidium lini* on, in India, 1.

—, see also *Flax*.

Linseed oil, use of, as a spray supplement, 318, 402.

Liothrips pistaciae transmitting pistachio nut rosette, 211.

Liquidambar styraciflua, bark bleeding of, in U.S.A., 274; *Dothiorella berengeriana* in relation to, 274.

Litchi chinensis, *Clitocybe tabescens* on, in U.S.A., 497.

Lithium chloride and nitrate, use of, against parasitic plant diseases, 35.

Locusts, *Empusa grylli* on, in China, 45.

Lolium multiflorum and *L. perenne*, *Claviceps purpurea* on, in New Zealand, 452.

— — — — —, *Helotium* on, see *Phialea mucosa* on.

— — — — —, *Phialea mucosa* on, 455; in New Zealand, 2.

Loquat (*Eriobotrya japonica*), *Lambertella* on, in Bermuda, 321.

—, *Phytophthora cactorum* on, in U.S.A., 422.

Lucerne (*Medicago sativa*), *Ascochyta imperfecta* on, in Canada, 121; Germany, 336; U.S.A., 528.

—, boron deficiency in, in Germany, 336; U.S.A., 22, 23, 143, 494; control, 22, 23, 143.

—, copper deficiency in, in S. Australia, 125.

—, *Corynebacterium insidiosum* on, in Canada, 121; U.S.A., 527.

—, dwarf in U.S.A., 278.

—, frost injury in Germany, 336.

—, *Leptosphaeria pratensis* on, in Canada, 121.

—, molybdenum deficiency in, in Germany, 336.

—, mosaic in U.S.A., 513, 516; hosts of, 516; transmission of, by *Macrosiphum pisi*, 513; to celery, 513.

—, pea mottle can infect, 293.

—, *Peronospora trifoliorum* on, in U.S.A., 22.

—, *Pleospora herbarum* on, in Canada, 121; U.S.A., 22.

—, *Pseudopeziza medicaginis* on, in Iran, 99; U.S.A., 22.

—, *Rosellinia necatrix* on, in U.S.A., 23.

—, *Stagonospora meliloti* on, in U.S.A., 22.

—, (?) *Typhula* on, in Canada, 143.

—, *Uromyces striatus* on, in Tanganyika, 282.

—, *Verticillium* on, in Germany, 336.

—, zinc deficiency in, in S. Australia, 125.

Lupin (*Lupinus*), *Ascochyta* and *A. pisi* on, in U.S.A., 293.

—, *Ceratophorum setosum* on, 293.

—, chlorosis, lime-induced, 293.

—, *Collybia velutipes* and *Corticium solani* on, in U.S.A., 293.

—, copper deficiency in, in Germany, 134.

—, cucumber virus 1 on, 293.

—, *Cylindrocladium* on, in England, 24.

—, *Fusarium oxysporum* on, in Rumania, 405.

—, pea virus 2 on, 293.

—, *Pleurotus ostreatus*, *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum*, and *Thielaviopsis basicola* on, in U.S.A., 293.

—, tomato spotted wilt affecting, in England and U.S.A., 293.

Lycopersicum esculentum, see Tomato.

—, *humboldtii*, leaf roll of, in Germany, 230.

—, *pimpinellifolium*, *Fusarium bulbigenum* var. *lycopersici* on, in U.S.A., 393.

—, tobacco leaf curl can infect, 167.

Lycorine, toxicity of, to *Phytophthora omnivorum*, 75.

Macrophoma on *Cupressus arizonica* in U.S.A., 53.

— on orchid in Puerto Rico, 202.

— (?) *cupressii* on *Cupressus* in U.S.A., 53.

— *ilicella* on *Ilex aquifolium* in U.S.A., 394.

— *phaseoli* on cotton in India, 76, 450; U.S.A., 332.

— — — on groundnut in India, 363.

— — — on potato in U.S.A., 501.

— — — on spruce in U.S.A., 275; host range of, 275.

Macrosiphum pisi transmitting lucerne mosaic, 513; *Vigna sesquipedalis* mosaic, 514.

— *solanifolii* transmitting potato leaf roll, 499.

Macrosporium on cheese, effect of ultra-violet radiation on, 80.

Macrostelus divisus transmitting aster yellows, 257.

Magdalia armicollis in relation to *Ceratostomella ulmi* on elm, 104.

Magnesium deficiency in *Ailanthis altissima*, 53; beans in New S. Wales, 62; cantaloupe in U.S.A., 438; *Catalpa speciosa* and elm, 53; grapefruit in U.S.A., 524; oil palm in Dutch E. Indies, 196.

—, effect of, on 'white tip' of rice, 128; on reclamation disease of oats and rye, 11.

— 8-hydroxyquinolate, use of, against X disease of peach, 296.

— oxide, use of, against grapefruit magnesium deficiency, 524.

Magnolia grandiflora, *Hendersonia magnoliae* on, in U.S.A., 53.

Maize (*Zea mays*), *Angiopsora zeae* on, in Guatemala, Puerto Rico, St. Domingo, Trinidad, and U.S.A., 73.

—, *Aspergillus niger* on, in U.S.A., 72.

—, bacterial heart rot of, in Jamaica, 242.

—, *Cephalosporium acremonium* on, in U.S.A., 367.

—, *Cercospora sorghi* on, in the Philippines, 47.

—, copper deficiency in, in Western Australia, 68, 92.

—, *Corticium solani* on, in U.S.A., 72.

—, *Diplodia macrospora* on, in U.S.A., 285; culture of, 330.

—, — *zeae* on, in Australia, 407; Canada, 121; U.S.A., 72, 285, 327, 331, 368; control, 72, 327; physiology of, 285.

—, diseases in Great Britain, 316; ear rot in U.S.A., 484.

—, *Fusarium* on, in Canada, 448; U.S.A., 72.

—, *Gibberella fujikuroi* on, 72; in Canada, 121; U.S.A., 72, 246, 286, 367; control, 72; factors affecting, 72, 286.

—, — var. *subglutinans* on, 72; in U.S.A., 286.

—, — *saubinetii* on, in Canada, 121; U.S.A., 72, 368, 386; control, 72; factors affecting, 386.

—, *Helminthosporium bicolor* on, in Canada, 448.

—, — *maydis* on, in Canada, 448; U.S.A., 71.

—, — *sativum* on, in U.S.A., 72.

—, manganese deficiency in, in S. Africa, 467.

—, 'mildew' in the Argentine, 413.

—, *Monilia* on, in U.S.A., 368.

—, mosaic in Hawaii, 413; transmission of, by *Peregrinus maidis*, 413.

—, *Nigrospora oryzae* on, in U.S.A., 368.

—, — *sphaerica* on, in Canada, 121; U.S.A., 368.

—, *Penicillium* on, in U.S.A., 368; U.S.S.R., 484.

—, — *oxalicum* on, in U.S.A., 72.

—, — *viridicatum* on, in the Argentine, 184, 413.

—, *Phoma terrestris* can infect, 118.

—, *Phylachora maydis* on, in Colombia, 99.

—, *Physoderma maydis* on, in Venezuela, 351.

—, *Puccinia maydis* on, in Ecuador, 163.

—, — *polysora* on, in U.S.A., 73; geographical distribution of, 73; wrongly referred to *P. sorghi*, 73.

[Maize], *Pythium arrhenomanes* on, in (?) Canada, 448; U.S.A., 366, 449.
 —, — *de Baryanum* on, in Canada, 448; U.S.A., 72.
 —, — *graminicola* on, in U.S.A., 72.
 —, — *Sclerospora sacchari* on, 347; in Queensland, 304.
 —, — *Sorosporium reilianum* on, in U.S.A., 205.
 — streak in E. Africa, 241.
 —, — *Trichoderma viride* on, in U.S.A., 72.
 —, — *Ustilago zea* on, 330, 523; in the Argentine, 518; U.S.A., 194, 205, 448, 522; U.S.S.R., 12; Venezuela, 351; auxin from, 523; breeding against, 330; factors affecting, 12, 522; pathogenicity of, 194; varietal reaction to, 448.
 — 'wallaby ear' in Queensland, 484; transmission of, by *Cicadula bimaculata*, 485.
 —, — *Xanthomonas stewarti* on, in U.S.A., 330; mutation of, induced by X-rays, 343, 523; taxonomy of, 282.
 Malachite green, use of, against *Peronospora schleideniana*, 63; *Phytophthora cactorum* on trees, 394.
Mamianiella coryli on *Corylus avellana* in Iran, 99.
 Man, *Achorion actoni* on, in India, 333.
 —, — *formosensis* on, in Japan, 200.
 —, — *schoenleinii* on, in India, 333; Japan, 200.
 —, — *Actinomyces* on, in U.S.A., 525.
 —, — *bovis* on, 15.
 —, — *hominis* on, 200.
 —, — *Alternaria* in relation to asthma and hay fever of, 418; in Cuba, 452; U.S.A., 16.
 —, — *Aspergillus* on, in U.S.A., 525.
 —, — *flavus* and *A. fumigatus* on, 15.
 —, — *niger* on, 15; in Brazil, 254.
 —, asthma and hay fever of, air-borne spores in relation to, 418; in U.S.A., 16; in Cuba, 452.
 —, — *Blastomyces dermatitidis* on, (?) 15; in U.S.A., 488; serological study on, 370; synonymy of, 489.
 —, bronchopulmonary mycoses of, monograph on, 198.
 —, — *Candida albicans* on, 15, 370; in Australia and Canada, 369; Germany, 78; Scotland, 138.
 —, — *flarerii* on, in Germany, 79.
 —, — *parakrusei* on, in U.S.A., 139.
 —, — *suaveolens* on, 526.
 —, — *tropicalis* on, in Germany, 79; U.S.A., 525.
 —, (?) — *vulgaris* on, in U.S.A., 525.
 —, — *Coccidioides immitis* on, 15; U.S.A., 199, 417.
 —, — *Debaryomyces neoformans* on, 15; in Queensland, 289; U.S.A., 289; *Cryptococcus* in relation to, 289.
 —, — *Epidermophyton* on, in U.S.A., 139.
 —, — *floccosum* on, in Canada and U.S.A., 525.
 —, — *Fonsecaea pedrosoi* var. *cladosporioides* on, in Mexico, 254; synonymy of, 254. (See also *Hormodendrum pedrosoi* on.)
 —, fungi in relation to respiratory diseases of, review on, 79.
 —, — *Histoplasma capsulatum* on, in S. America, 333; U.S.A., 255, 290, 488.
 —, — *Hormodendrum pedrosoi* on, in Cuba, 289.
 —, — *Kloeckeraspora apiculata* on, in Germany, 79.
 —, — *Microsphaera alni* as an allergic agent of, in U.S.A., 138.
 —, — *Microsporum felineum* on, in Venezuela, 254.
 —, — *ferrugineum* on, in Japan, 199, 200.
 —, — *Mycotorula azymatica* and *M. unguis* on, in Germany, 79.
 —, — *Rhinosporidium seeberi* on, in U.S.A., 417.
 —, — *Rhodotorula mucilaginosa* var. *pararosea*, *R. rosea*, and *Saccharomyces* on, in Germany, 79.
 [Man], *Sporotrichum beurmanni* on, 15.
 —, — *schenckii* on, 15; U.S.A., 16.
 —, — *Torulaspora alkoholi* and its var. *azymatica*, and *Torulopsis glycosi* on, in Germany, 79.
 —, — *Trichophyton* on, 383.
 —, — *coccineum* on, in Japan, 199, 200.
 —, — *crateriforme* on, in India, 254; Venezuela, 254; a variant of *T. tonsurans*, 254.
 —, — *glabrum* on, in Japan, 199, 200.
 —, — *gypseum* on, in U.S.A., 139.
 —, — var. *radiolatum* on, in Japan, 199.
 —, — *subauraui* on, in Venezuela, 254.
 —, — *violaceum* on, in India, 254; Japan, 199, 200.
 —, — *Zygapichia peptoni* on, in Germany, 79.
 Mandarin orange, see Orange.
 Manganese chloride, use of, against beet manganese deficiency, 468; against 'potato sickness', 219.
 — deficiency in apricot and beans in S. Africa, 467; beet in England, 468; cantaloupe in U.S.A., 438; chestnut, citrus, maize, and nectarine in S. Africa, 467; oats in Australia, 284; in Canada, 193; in England, 468; U.S.A., 193, 522; orange in New S. Wales, 136; *Passiflora quadrangularis* in S. Africa, 467; pea in England, 179; S. Africa, 467; S. Australia, 125; Western Australia, 92; peach, pear, and plum in S. Africa, 467; *Phalaris minor* in Australia, 285; potato in England, 219; S. Africa, 467; U.S.A., 441; Western Australia, 68, 92; relation to plum little leaf, 407; swede in Western Australia, 92; tomato in Canada, 310; S. Africa, 467; U.S.A., 310, 506; vine in S. Africa, 467.
 — excess in beans in New S. Wales, 62.
 — in relation to reclamation disease of oats and rye, 11.
 — sulphate, use of, against chlorotic disease of citrus, 287; manganese deficiency in beet, 468; oats, 193, 194; orange, 136; potato, 68, 441; tomato, 507; vegetables and fruit trees, 467.
 Mango (*Mangifera indica*), *Glomerella cingulata* on, in Portugal, 504.
 —, — *Oidium* (?) *mangiferae* on, in Southern Rhodesia, 31.
 Mangold (*Beta vulgaris*), beet yellows affecting, in New Zealand, 2.
 —, see also Beet.
 Manihot utilissima, see Cassava.
 Manna hemp, see *Musa textilis*.
 Maple, see *Acer*.
 Maranta arundinacea, see Arrowroot.
 Marasmius palmivorus on coco-nut in Malaya, 66.
 — *perniciosus* on cacao in Trinidad and Tobago, 281; Venezuela, 324.
 Marmor efficiens, see Pea mottle.
 — *pallidolimbatus*, see *Prunus serrulata*, banded chlorosis of.
 — *repens*, see Pea wilt.
 — *tabaci* var. *plantaginis*, see Tobacco mosaic on *Plantago*.
 — *vastans* var. *agalliae*, see Potato yellow dwarf.
 Marssonia *fraxnii* imperfect stage of *Mycosphaerella effigurata*, 54.
 Massariella *palmarum* on date palm in Iran, 99.
 Mastigosporium *album* var. *athrix* synonym of *Septogloea oxysporum*, 204.
 Matthiola incana, *Xanthomonas campestris* on, in New S. Wales, 291.
 Medicago, zinc deficiency in, in S. Australia, 125.
 — *arabica*, *Cercospora medicaginis* on, in Uruguay, 129.

[*Medicago*] *falcata*, *Ascochyta imperfecta* on, in U.S.A., 528.
 — *lupulina*, pea mottle can infect, 293.
 —, potato yellow dwarf affecting, in U.S.A., 264.
 — *ruthenica*, *Ascochyta imperfecta* on, in U.S.A., 528.
 — *sativa*, see *Lucerne*.
Medlar (*Mespilus germanica*), *Physalospora multula* on, in Iran, 99.
 (?) *Melampsora albertensis* on poplar in the Argentine and Uruguay, 173.
 — *larici-populina* on poplar in the Argentine, 173.
 — *lini* on flax in the Argentine, 246; Australia, 256, 490; Germany, 489; New Zealand, 3; U.S.A., 80, 256, 291, 418; Western Australia, 454; breeding against, 80; control, 256, 291, 454; physiologic races of, 489; varietal reaction to, 80, 256, 418, 490.
Melampsoridium betulinum on *Betula celtiberica* in Portugal, 243.
Melampyrum lineare, *Cronartium coleosporioides* on, in N. America, 395.
Melanconis, revision of the genus, 101.
Melanconium fuligineum on vine in U.S.A., 318.
 — *sphaeroideum* on alder in U.S.A., 100.
Melanoid, use of, as a timber preservative, 311.
Melanoplus differentialis transmitting *Corynebacterium sepedonicum*, 501.
Melica ciliata, *Uromyces graminis* on, in Portugal, 303; perfect stage of *Aecidium foeniculi*, 303; transmission of, to carrot, *Coriandrum sativum*, and parsley, 303.
Melilotus, *Leptosphaeria pratensis* and *Phytophthora cactorum* on, in Canada, 121.
 —, *Pseudopeziza meliloti* and *Stagonospora meliloti* on, in U.S.A., 22.
 —, tobacco streak virus affecting, in U.S.A., 516.
 —, (?) *Typhula* on, in Canada, 143.
 — *alba*, pea mottle can infect, 293.
Melon (Cucumis melo), *Colletotrichum lagenarium* on, in U.S.A., 512.
 —, *Erysiphe cichoracearum* on, in U.S.A., 353.
 —, *Phoma terrestris* can infect, 118.
 —, see also *Cantaloupe*.
Mentha, diseases of, in Great Britain, 316.
Mercuric chloride injury, 507.
 —, toxicity of, to *Erysiphe polygoni*, 382; *Fusarium oxysporum* var. *cubense*, 340.
 —, use of, against *Alternaria* on cereals, 9; *Corticium solani* on potato, 37, 263, 345; *Erwinia phytophthora*, 262; *Fusarium bulbigenum* var. *batatas* and *F. oxysporum* f. 2, 360; gladiolus diseases, 201; *Helminthosporium sativum*, 9; *Phoma* on wood pulp, 315; *Plasmodiophora brassicae*, 177; potato seed piece decay, 345; *Pythium* on ginger, 364; *Xanthomonas campestris* on *Matthiola incana*, 291; *X. vesicatoria* on chilli, 237; as a timber preservative, 277; wound dressing, 195.
Mercurisan, use of, against *Mycosphaerella pinodes* on pea, 185.
Mercurous chloride, use of, against *Plasmodiophora brassicae*, 177.
Mercury, fungicidal action of, 150.
 —, acid, use of, against *Corticium solani* and *Corynebacterium sepedonicum*, 322.
 —, compounds, organic, use of, against *Xanthomonas vesicatoria* on chilli, 237, 238; for seed grain disinfection, 131, 187.
 —, dusts A, B, and C, use of, against *Sphacelotheca sorghi*, 71.
 —, oxide, yellow, use of, against potato seed piece decay, 345.
 [Mercury] -zinc amalgam, use of, against *Plasmodiophora brassicae*, 177.
Meria coniospora on nematodes in U.S.A., 15.
Merulius lacrymans, cultural study on, 59.
 — on timber, 316, 436, 509; in Portugal, 266; control, 316; factors affecting, 436, 509.
Mespilus germanica, see *Medlar*.
Metarrhizium anisopliae can infect silkworms, 289.
Metaphaeaeria on *Erythrina* in Colombia, 8.
Methylnaphthalene, α , and methyl salicylate, α , effect of, on *Bacterium tumefaciens* tumours, 247-8.
Microsphaera alni as an allergen of man in U.S.A., 138.
Microsporum felineum on man in Venezuela, 254.
 — *ferrugineum* on man in Japan, 199, 200.
Microryniella rubi on raspberry in Austria, 226.
Milesina dietesiana on *Polypodium vulgare* and its var. *serratum* wrongly identified as *Gloeosporium polypodii*, 455.
 — *scolopendrii* on *Scolopendrium officinale* wrongly identified as *Gloeosporium nicolai*, 455.
 — *whitei* on *Aspidium aculeatum* (?) identified as *Gloeosporium polypodii*, 455.
Milk, *Oospora lactis*, *Penicillium camemberti*, and *P. roqueforti* in, in U.S.A., 80.
Mint, see *Mentha*.
Molasses, use of, as an adhesive, 341.
Molinia coerulea, *Rhizophagus* on, forming mycorrhiza in England, 300.
Molybdenum deficiency in lucerne in Germany, 336; in oats in S. Australia, 125.
 —, effect of, on lettuce, 317.
 —, use of, against boron deficiency and 'glassiness' of beets, 266.
Monilia in the air in U.S.A., 290.
 — on maize in U.S.A., 368.
 —, technique for studying growth of, 464.
 — *roreri* on cacao in (?) Colombia, 7; Venezuela, 324.
 — *sitophila* on bread in U.S.A., 342.
 — on cotton in the Argentine, 417.
Monilochaetes infuscans on sweet potato in U.S.A., 515.
Monocalcium acid phosphate, use of, against moulds in bread, 342.
Monochaetia in India and Burma, 504.
Morus, see *Mulberry*.
Mosaic diseases, see under hosts.
Moulds, anti-bacterial products from, 344.
 — in the air in relation to asthma and hay fever of man, 255.
 — in butter in Canada, 79, 255.
 — in cream, Wildman M.B.B. test for, 17.
 — in tomato juice in U.S.A., 309.
 — on apple in Australia, 406; Victoria, 374.
 — on cheese, effect of ultra-violet rays on, 79; in Canada, 256; New Zealand, 2.
 — on grapes in Australia, 407; S. Africa, 319.
 — on orange in Western Australia, 369.
Mucor in the air in U.S.A., 290.
 — in relation to asthma and hay fever of man in Cuba, 452.
 — on apple in Switzerland, 457.
 — on cherry in U.S.A., 532.
 — on flax in Australia, 370.
 — on pear in Switzerland, 457.
 — on timber in Finland, 59; control, 59.
 — *mucedo* on flax in Germany, 453.
 — *piriformis* on pear in N. America, 531.
 — *plumbeus* on flax in Germany, 453.
Mucuna deeringiana, potassium deficiency in, in Hawaii, 371.

Mulberry (*Morus*), *Cercospora* *maculans* on, in Iran, 99; U.S.A., 100.

Musa cavendishii and *M. sapientum*, see Banana.

— *textilis*, bunchy top of, in the Philippines, 66, 535.

— —, *Canna indica* mosaic can infect, 491.

— —, *Fusarium oxysporum* var. *cubense* and mosaic of, in the Philippines, 66.

Muscaria comosum, virus disease of, in Portugal, 490.

— —, yellow dwarf of, in Portugal, 243.

Mushrooms (*Psalliota* spp.), chlamydospores of, 401.

— —, cultivation of, in Czechoslovakia, 514; in U.S.A., 182, 239.

— —, diseases of, in Great Britain, 316.

Musk-melon, see Melon.

Mustard (*Brassica alba* and *B. nigra*), copper deficiency in, in Germany, 134.

— potato yellow dwarf can infect, 264.

Mycelium radicis atrovirens, auxin requirements of, 390.

— — — on larch, forming mycorrhiza, 389.

— — — on spruce, forming mycorrhiza in Swedish soil in England, 300.

— — — *nigro-strigosum* on spruce, forming mycorrhiza in Canadian soil in England, 299.

Mycological nomenclature, two proposed changes in the rules governing, 539.

— and phytopathological terms, glossary of, 424.

Mycology, medical, in S. America, 333.

Mycorrhizal fungi, auxin requirements of, 390.

— of *Cupressus lawsoniana*, *Rhizophagus* forming, in Britain and N. America, 300.

— of evergreens, *Boletus felleus* forming, in U.S.A., 443.

— of larch, *Boletus elegans* forming, 388; *B. (?) viscidus*, *Mycelium radicis atrovirens*, and *Paxillus involutus* forming, 389.

— of *Molinia caerulea*, *Rhizophagus* forming, in England, 300.

— of pine in U.S.A., 90; *Boletus bovinus* forming, in England, 298; *B. granulatus*, *B. luteus*, *Scleroderma aurantium*, and *Tricholoma pessundatum* forming, in Sweden, 389.

— of spruce, (?) *Boletus bovinus* forming, in Swedish soil in England, 299; *Mycelium radicis nigro-strigosum* forming, in Canadian soil in England, 299; *Scleroderma aurantium* and *Tricholoma pessundatum* forming, in Sweden, 389.

— of trees in Colorado, 313.

Mycosphaerella on *Atropa belladonna* in U.S.A., 222.

—, the perfect stage of *Cercospora brachypus*, 64.

— *aleuritidis* on *Aleurites* in China, 55; synonymy of, 55.

— *angulata* on vine in U.S.A., 239; *Cercospora brachypus* imperfect stage of, 239.

— *brassicicola* on cabbage in Ecuador, 163.

— *caricae* on papaw in Brazil, 88.

— *effigurata* on ash in U.S.A., 54; imperfect stages of, 54.

— *fragariae* on strawberry in England, 86; New Zealand, 28; U.S.A., 463, 533; control, 28, 533.

— *grossulariae* on currants in New Zealand, 29; U.S.A., 245.

— — on gooseberry in New Zealand, 29.

— *microsora* on lime tree in Germany, 306; perfect stage of *Cercospora microsora*, 306.

— *pinodes* on pea in the Argentine, 185; U.S.A., 127; Victoria, 438.

— *rabiei* on *Cicer arietinum* in India, 120.

[*Mycosphaerella*] *rosicola* on rose in Venezuela, 324.

— *sentina* on pear in Iran, 99; Spain, 403.

— *sequoiae* on *Sequoia sempervirens* in U.S.A., 394.

— *stigmatica-platani* on *Platanus orientalis* in Iran, 99.

Mycotorula azymatica and *M. unguis* on man in Germany, 79.

Myriangiales exsiccati from São Paulo, 428.

Myrica cerifera, *Ptychogaster cubensis* on, in U.S.A., 395.

Myristica fragrans, see Nutmeg.

Mycophagus ucrainicus, *Entomophthora (Tarchon) reticulata* referred to, 15.

Myzus persicae injury to *Antirrhinum* and *Linaria* in U.S.A., 257.

— — transmitting bean leaf wilt, 388; chilli mosaic, 401; potato virus A, 469; potato virus Y, 302, 469.

Nanus cupuliformans, see Strawberry 'stunt'.

Narcissus, *Fusarium bulbigenum* on, in U.S.A., 335.

—, virus disease of, in Portugal, 490.

— —, yellow dwarf of, in Portugal, 243.

Nasturtium officinale, see Watercress.

Necator decretus, see *Corticium salmonicolor*.

Nectarine (*Prunus persica*), manganese deficiency in, in S. Africa, 467.

— *Sclerotinia fructicola* on, in New S. Wales, 280.

—, *Taphrina deformans* on, in Kenya, 147.

Nectria on orange in India, 487.

— on plum in Tanganyika, 282.

— *galligena* on apple in Chile, 443; Great Britain, 24, 164; Spain, 338; Sweden, 24.

— — — on ash in Great Britain, 165.

Nematocotonum leiosporus and *N. tylosporus* on nematodes in U.S.A., 15.

Nematodes, list of *Hyphomycetes* on, in U.S.A., 15.

Nematospora coryli on cotton in S. Africa, 415.

— *gossypii* on cotton in Nyasaland, 4; S. Africa, 415.

Neofabraea malicorticis on pear in N. America, 531.

Nepeta cataria, *Fusarium* on, in U.S.A., 221.

Nephrotettix bipunctatus transmitting rice 'dwarf' disease, 97.

Nephthyitis afzelii, *Cephalosporium cinnamomeum* on, in U.S.A., 335.

Neurospora, use of, for genetical experiments, 387.

— *crassa* mutations induced by ultra-violet rays, 467; X-rays, 154, 467.

— *sitophila* on sugar-cane in Hawaii, 350.

Nicandra physaloides, tobacco leaf curl can infect, 167.

Nickel, fungicidal action of, 150.

— sulphate, use of, as a timber preservative, 107.

Nicotiana alpina, *Peronospora nicotianae* on, in the Argentine, 226.

— *glaucum* grafts, reaction of, to tobacco mosaic virus, 51.

— *glutinosa*, banana virus can infect, 88.

— — —, cranberry false blossom can infect, 340.

— — —, *Petunia* leaf curl can infect, 168.

— — —, tobacco broad ring spot virus can infect, 540.

— — —, — leaf curl can infect, 167.

— — —, — mosaic virus affecting grafts of, on tobacco, 51.

— *repanda*, *Peronospora tabacina* on, in U.S.A., 5.

— *rustica*, aster yellows affecting, in U.S.A., 258.

— — —, banana virus can infect, 88.

[*Nicotiana*] *syvestris*, tobacco broad ring spot virus can infect, 540.
 — *tabacum*, see Tobacco.
 — virus 6 distinct from tobacco virus 1, 268.
Nigrospora oryzae on maize in U.S.A., 368.
 — *sphaerica* on banana in Australia, 31.
 — on maize in Canada, 121; U.S.A., 368.
 — on oak in U.S.A., 272.
 Nitrogen deficiency in *Ailanthus altissima*, 53; beet in U.S.A., 237; cantaloupe in U.S.A., 438; *Catalpa speciosa* and elm, 53.
 —, effect of, on tobacco mosaic, 169.
 —, see also Fertilizers.
 Nitrokeleenup, use of, as a pollencide, 530.
Nothofagus, *Cyrtaria* on, in the Argentine, 507; list of species of, 507.
 Nu-film, use of, as a spreader, 148.
Nummularia clypeus on oak in U.S.A., 272.
 Nutmeg (*Myristica fragrans*), *Rosellinia pepo* on, in W. Indies, 162.
 Oak (*Quercus*), *Alternaria* on, in U.S.A., 272.
 —, *Amillaria* on, in U.S.A., 272.
 —, — *mellea* on, in U.S.A., 396.
 —, *Bulgaria inquinans*, *Cephalosporium*, *Chaetomium globosum*, and *Coniothyrium truncis-eud* on, in U.S.A., 272.
 —, *Corticium lividum* and (?) *Coryne sarcoides* on, in U.S.A., 396.
 —, *Coryneum kunzei*, *Cunninghamella*, *Cylindrosporium quercinum*, *Diatrype stigma*, and *Dothiorella quericina* on, in U.S.A., 272.
 —, *Fistulina hepatica* on, in U.S.A., 396.
 —, *Fomes everhartii* and *F. geotropus* on, in U.S.A., 396.
 —, — *robustum* on, in Austria, 56; U.S.A., 396.
 —, *Fusicoccum ellisianum* on, in U.S.A., 272.
 —, *Ganoderma applanatum* and *G. lucidum* on, in U.S.A., 396.
 —, heat injury to, in U.S.A., 507.
 —, *Hydnus erinaceus* on, in U.S.A., 396.
 —, hydrogen fluoride injury to, in Sweden, 151.
 —, *Lentinus tigrinus* on, in U.S.A., 396.
 —, *Nigrospora sphaerica* and *Nummularia clypeus* on, in U.S.A., 272.
 —, *Oidium quercinum* var. *gemmae* on, in Portugal, 266.
 —, *Penicillium* on, in U.S.A., 272.
 —, — *divaricatum* on, in U.S.A., 396.
 —, *Pestalotia clavigpora*, *Phoma aposphaeroides*, *P. quercina*, and *Phomopsis quercina* on, in U.S.A., 272.
 —, *Phytophthora cactorum* on, in U.S.A., 394.
 —, *Polyporus compactus*, *P. dryophilus*, *P. fissilis*, *P. hispidus*, *P. ludovicianus*, *P. spraguei*, *P. sulphureus*, *P. zonalis*, *Poria andersonii*, *P. cocos*, and *P. inflata* on, in U.S.A., 396.
 —, *Poria spiculosa* on, in U.S.A., 270; *Fomes igniarius* var. *laevigatus* and *P. prunicola* in relation to, 271.
 —, *Ptychogaster cubensis* on, in U.S.A., 395.
 —, *Pyrenopeziza minuta* and *Rhodosticta quercina* on, in U.S.A., 272.
 —, *Rigidiporus surinamensis subauberianus* on, in U.S.A., 504.
 —, *Sphaeropsis quercinum* on, in U.S.A., 272.
 —, *Stereum frustulosum* and *S. gausapatum* on, in U.S.A., 396.
 —, *Taphrina coerulescens* on, in U.S.A., 232, 271; *T. rubrobrunnea* synonym of, 271; *T. kruehii* distinct from, 271.
 —, *Trametes morganii* on, in U.S.A., 397.
 —, *Trichoderma viride* on, in U.S.A., 396.
 [Oak], *Valsa intermedia* on, in U.S.A., 272.
 Oats (*Avena*), *Bromus* yellow mosaic can infect, 371.
 —, *Claviceps purpurea* on, in New Zealand, 452.
 —, copper deficiency in, 10, 266; in Germany, 134; S. Australia, 125; Western Australia, 68; control, 68, 134.
 —, diseases of, seed disinfection against, 187.
 —, *Fusarium* on, 10; in Canada, 366.
 —, grey speck of, see Oats, manganese deficiency in.
 —, *Helminthosporium avenae* on, in Canada, 366.
 —, manganese deficiency in, in Australia, 284; Canada, 193; England, 468; U.S.A., 193, 522; varietal reaction to, 284.
 —, molybdenum deficiency in, in S. Australia, 125.
 —, *Phoma terrestris* can infect, 118.
 —, *Puccinia coronata* on, in the Argentine, 184, 518; Canada, 121, 544; U.S.A., 8, 251, 330, 441, 484; breeding against, 251; effect of, on yield, 251; physiologic races of, 184; varietal reaction to, 8, 184, 251, 330, 441.
 —, — *graminis* on, in U.S.A., 8, 251, 284, 330, 441; breeding against, 251; earliest epidemic of, 284; effect of, on yield, 251; varietal reaction to, 8, 251, 330, 441.
 —, *Pythium arrhenomanes* on, in U.S.A., 367.
 —, *Sclerospora macrospora* on, in U.S.A., 8.
 —, *Ustilago avenae* on, in India, 327; New S. Wales, 124; U.S.A., 8, 251, 326, 329, 330, 367, 441, 446, 522; breeding against, 251, 327, 329, 367; control, 124, 326, 327; effect of, on yield, 251; physiologic races of, 251, 446; varietal, reaction to, 8, 251, 327, 329, 330, 367, 441, 446, 522.
 —, — *kollerii* on, in India, 327; New S. Wales, 124; U.S.A., 8, 10, 251, 326, 329, 330, 367, 441, 446, 522; breeding against, 251, 327, 329, 367; control, 124, 326, 327; effect of, on yield, 251; varietal reaction to, 8, 251, 327, 329, 330, 367, 441, 446, 522.
 —, — *perennans* on, in U.S.A., 12.
 —, wheat mosaic, winter, affecting, in U.S.S.R., 251.
 —, zinc deficiency in, in S. Australia, 69, 125.
Odontosia taurica on artichoke in Spain, 404.
 —, — on *Catalpa speciosa* in Iran, 99.
Oidium on cheese, effect of ultra-violet rays on, 80.
 — on papaw in New S. Wales, 281.
 — *caricae* on papaw in Brazil, 88; Hawaii, 150; U.S.A., 463.
 — *heveae* on *Hevea* rubber in Ceylon, 97; Dutch E. Indies, 220; Malaya, 391.
 — *leucoconium* imperfect stage of *Sphaerotheca pannosa*, 266.
 — *lini* on linseed in India, 1.
 — (?) *mangiferae* on mango in Southern Rhodesia, 31.
 — *quercinum* var. *gemmae* on oak in Portugal, 266.
 Oil, crank-case, use of, as a timber preservative, 109.
 —, diesel, use of, as a timber preservative, 509.
 —, solar, use of, against *Ceratostomella fimbriata* on *Hevea* rubber, 323.
 —, white, use of, as an adhesive, 123.
 Oil palm (*Elaeis guineensis*), *Fomes noxius* on, in Malaya, 66; Sumatra, 323.
 —, —, magnesium deficiency in, in Dutch E. Indies, 196.
 —, —, *Poria ravenala* on, in Sumatra, 323.
 —, —, potassium deficiency in, in Dutch E. Indies, 196.

Oiled wrappers, use of, against apple scald, 82;
Penicillium expansum on apple, 459.

Olea europaea, see Olive.

Oleaceae, mycorrhiza of, in U.S.A., 313.

Olive (*Olea europaea*), *Cycloconium oleaginum* on, in Spain, 403.

—, *Gloeosporium olivarum* on, in Portugal, 243, 496; Spain, 403; U.S.A., 534.

—, (?) *Phoma fallens* on, in Spain, 403.

—, *Pseudomonas savastanoi* on, in Portugal, 243.

Omphalia flava on coffee in Venezuela, 324.

Onion (*Allium cepa*), diseases of, in England, 112; U.S.A., 316.

—, *Papulaspore coprophila* on, in Mexico, 352.

—, *Peronospora schleideniana* on, in S. Africa, 181; U.S.A., 63.

—, *Phoma terrestris* on, in U.S.A., 117; host range of, 118.

—, *Phytonomas allicola* on, in U.S.A., 325.

—, *Sclerotium cepivorum* on, in England, 213.

—, *Urocystis cepulae* on, in U.S.A., 386.

—, virus disease of, in Portugal, 490.

—, yellow dwarf in Portugal, 243.

Oospora citri-aurantii on lime in Brazil, Cuba, Guatemala, Haiti, and Mexico, 352.

— on orange in China, 45; the Philippines, 66.

— *lactis* in butter in Canada, 255; Germany, 334; U.S.A., 334.

— in cream in U.S.A., 16, 17, 80.

Operculella padwickii on *Cicer arietinum* in India, 120.

Ophiobolus graminis in soil, factors affecting, 191.

— on cereals, review on, 481.

— on wheat, 11, 133, 445, 520; in the Argentine, 246, 518; Australia, 405, 519, 520; India, 1; S. Australia, 124; Spain, 404; breeding against, 520; control, 124, 445, 519, 520; factors affecting, 11, 445, 519, 520; grasses in relation to, 133.

— *miyabeanus* on *Pennisetum typhoides* in India, 362.

— on rice in India, 362; U.S.A., 128.

— on *Setaria italica* and sugar-cane in India, 362.

— *oryzinus* on rice in U.S.A., 128.

— *setariae* on *Setaria italica* in U.S.A., 252.

— *stenospilus* on sugar-cane in Venezuela, 324.

Opium poppy (*Papaver somniferum*), boron deficiency in, 471.

—, *Peronospora arborescens* on, in Iran, 99.

Oplismenus cosmopolitus, *Claviceps* on, in India, 206.

Opuntia, *Bacillus cacticidus* on, in S. Australia, 366.

—, bacterial rots of, in Australia, 34; *Cactoblastis cactorum* in relation to, 34.

—, *Gloeosporium lunatum* and *Phyllosticta con-cava* on, in Australia, 33.

Orange (*Citrus aurantium*, *C. sinensis*, etc.), *Alternaria* on, in S. Australia, 124.

—, *citri* on, in China, 45.

—, *Boletus tropicus* and other fungi in relation to *Pseudococcus* on, in Brazil, 414.

—, *Botryosphaeria ribis* on, in Brazil, 524.

—, *Botryosphaera cinerea* on, in the Philippines, 66.

—, *Colletotrichum* on, in S. Australia, 124.

—, *gloeosporioides* on, in Chile, 443; Spain, 404.

—, *Corticium salmonicolor* on, in India, 487.

—, decay in Palestine, 13.

—, *Diplodia* on, in India, 487.

—, *Elsinoe australis* on, in the Argentine, 369.

—, *fawcetti* on, in Venezuela, 324.

[Orange] gummosis in India, 364.

— leprosis in Brazil, 74.

—, manganese deficiency in, in New S. Wales, 136.

—, mottle leaf in India, 414.

—, moulds on, in Western Australia, 369.

—, *Nectria* on, in India, 487.

—, *Oospora citri-aurantii* on, in China, 45; the Philippines, 66.

—, *Penicillium* on, in Western Australia, 369.

—, *Phytophthora* on, in India, 363.

—, — *boehmeriae* on, in the Argentine, 185.

—, — *citrophthora* on, in the Argentine, 195; Chile, 443; the Philippines, 66.

—, — *parasitica* on, in the Argentine, 195; U.S.A., 486.

— psoriasis in U.S.A., 449.

— A in U.S.A., 74.

— root rot in the Argentine, 485; India, 364.

—, *Septoria* on, in S. Australia, 124.

—, (?) *citri* on, in U.S.A., 73.

— water spot in Western Australia, 368.

— witches' broom in Chile, 443.

— zinc deficiency in, in U.S.A., 536.

Orchids, *Cercospora*, *Colletotrichum*, *Diplodina*, *Fusarium*, *Gloeosporium*, *Hendersonia*, *Macro-phoma*, *Phoma*, *Phytophthora*, *Puccinia*, *Sclerotium rolfsii*, and *Uredo* on, in Puerto Rico, 202. (See also *Cypripedium*.)

Orthex, use of, as an adhesive, 244; as a spreader, 443.

Ortho-oxyquinoline, see Cryptonol.

Orthophenylphenol, use of, against grape moulds, 407.

Orthophosphoric acid, use of, against damping-off of pine, 174.

Oryza spp., *Piricularia oryzae* on, in Japan, 96. — *sativa*, see Rice.

Oxkyupfer, use of, against *Venturia inaequalis*, 377.

Ozone, use of, against apple storage rots, 209.

Pachybasium on walnut in U.S.A., 311.

Paint moulds, control, 498; tests of fungicides against, 153, 498.

Palm, Palmyra (*Borassus flabellifer*), *Phytophthora palmivora* on, in India, 464; legislation against, 464.

Palm oil, use of, against rubber sun scorch, 391.

Panicum miliaceum, *Phoma terrestris* can infect, 118.

—, *Pythium arrhenomanes* on, in U.S.A., 367.

—, *Sphacelotheca panici-miliacei* on, in U.S.A., 20.

(?) —, wheat mosaic, winter, affecting, in U.S.S.R., 251.

Panus stypticus, luminosity of, 535.

Papaver nudicaule, *Pythium de Baryanum* can infect, 292.

Pawpaw (*Carica papaya*), *Alternaria* (?) *citri* on, in Hawaii, 150.

—, *Ascochyta* on, in Brazil, 88.

—, *Asperisporium caricae* on, in Brazil, 88; Ecuador, 164; U.S.A., 463; Venezuela, 324.

—, *Cercospora* on, in Brazil, 88.

—, *Collectotrichum gloeosporioides* on, in Brazil, 88; Hawaii, 149; (?) U.S.A., 463; (?) Venezuela, 324; control, 149.

—, *Fusarium* on, in Hawaii, 150.

— mosaic in Brazil, 88; Puerto Rico, 408; Venezuela, 324.

—, *Mycosphaerella caricae* on, in Brazil, 88.

—, *Oidium* on, in New S. Wales, 281.

—, *caricae* on, in Brazil, 88; Hawaii, 150; U.S.A., 463.

[Papaw], *Phyllosticta* on, in Brazil, 88.
 —, *Phytophthora parasitica* on, in Hawaii, 150, 382.
 —, *Pythium* and *P. aphanidermatum* on, in Hawaii, 150.
 —, *Rhizoctonia* on, in Hawaii, 150; U.S.A., 463.
Papulaspora coprophila on onion in Mexico, 352.
 — *gladioli* on gladiolus, *Urocystis gladioli* in relation to, 258.
 Paranitrophenol, use of, against X disease of peach, 296.
Parsley (*Petroselinum sativum*), *Uromyces grammatis* can infect, 303.
Parsnip (*Pastinaca sativa*), diseases of, in England, 112.
Parthenocissus, see Virginia Creeper.
Paspalum, *Claviceps paspali* on, in New Zealand, 452.
 — *dilatatum*, *Claviceps paspali* on, in Australia, 22; S. Africa, 337; U.S.A., 337.
 — *distichum*, *Claviceps paspali* on, in Australia, 22; cattle poisoning by, 22.
Passiflora edulis, see Passion fruit.
 — *quadrangularis*, manganese deficiency in, in S. Africa, 467.
Passion fruit (*Passiflora edulis*), *Alternaria passiflorae* on, in New S. Wales, 364.
 — —, *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum* on, in New S. Wales, 440.
Pastinaca sativa, see Parsnip.
Paxillus acheruntius on timber in Portugal, 266.
 — *involutus* on larch, forming mycorrhiza, 389.
 — *panuoides* on timber, 509.
 — *prunulus*, auxin requirements of, 390.
Pea (*Pisum sativum*), *Aphanomyces euteiches* on, in U.S.A., 60, 127, 245.
 —, *Ascochyta pinodella* on, in the Argentine, 185; Victoria, 438; U.S.A., 127.
 — —, *pisi* on, in the Argentine, 185; Victoria, 438.
 —, bean yellow necrosis can infect, 388.
 —, *Cercospora lathyrina* on, in U.S.A., 180.
 —, *Colletotrichum pisi* on, in U.S.S.R., 115.
 —, copper deficiency in, in Western Australia, 92.
 —, *Corticium solani* on, in U.S.A., 245.
 —, diseases of, in U.S.A., 316.
 —, *Erysiphe polygoni* on, in U.S.A., 127.
 —, *Fusarium oxysporum* can infect, 236.
 —, — *solani* var. *martii* f. 2 on, in U.S.A., 245.
 —, manganese deficiency in, in England, 179; S. Africa, 467; S. Australia, 125; Western Australia, 92; control, 467.
 —, marsh spot, see Pea, manganese deficiency in.
 —, mosaic, intracellular inclusions in, 61.
 —, mottle in U.S.A., 293; white clover mosaic in relation to, 293; hosts of, 293; named *Marmor efficiens*, 293; transmission of, by dodder, 293.
 —, *Mycosphaerella pinodes* on, in the Argentine, 185; U.S.A., 127; Victoria, 438.
 —, *Phoma terrestris* can infect, 118.
 —, *Pythium ultimum* on, in U.S.A., 245.
 —, *Rhizobium leguminosarum* on, effect of seed dressings on, 511.
 —, *Septoria pisi* on, in U.S.A., 127, 238.
 —, virus 2 on lupin, 293.
 —, wilt in U.S.A., 293; white clover mosaic in relation to, 293; named *Marmor repens*, 293.
 —, zinc deficiency in, in Western Australia, 92.
Peach (*Prunus persica*), arsenical spray residue injury to, in U.S.A., 339.
 —, *Bacterium tumefaciens* on, in U.S.A., 130, 378.
 —, cherry buckskin can infect, 84.
 —, *Cladosporium carpophilum* on, 464; conidial characters of, 226.
 —, *Peach*, *Cladosporium carpophilum* on, in U.S.A., 338, 339.
 —, *Clitocybe tabescens* on, in U.S.A., 497.
 —, crown damage of, and (?) *Diaporthe perniciosa* on, in U.S.A., 378.
 —, internal breakdown of, in S. Africa, 85.
 —, line pattern virosis affecting plum in U.S.A., 146; transmission of, to almond and cherry, 146.
 —, manganese deficiency in, in S. Africa, 467.
 —, mosaic in U.S.A., 4, 295, 338.
 —, mottle in U.S.A., 27.
 —, *Phomopsis* on, in the Argentine, 185.
 —, phony disease of, in U.S.A., 378.
 —, *Pseudomonas mors-prunorum* on, in England, 461.
 —, *Puccinia pruni-persicae* on, in Iran, 99.
 —, — *pruni-spinosae* on, in New S. Wales, 123.
 —, ring spot virosis of, in U.S.A., 85; transmission of, to almond, cherry, and plum, 85.
 —, rusty spot in New S. Wales, 281.
 —, *Sclerotinia fructicola* on, 464; in New S. Wales, 280; U.S.A., 27, 531; control, 280, 464.
 —, — *laxa* on, in U.S.A., 27.
 —, sunscald in U.S.A., 378.
 —, *Taphrina deformans* on, in Kenya, 147; U.S.A., 84, 89, 338; ascus production cycle in, 84; control, 89.
 —, 'wart' disease in U.S.A., 27.
 —, 'woolliness' in S. Africa, 84.
 —, X disease, 387; in U.S.A., 28, 147, 259, 296; 339; control, 147, 296; technique for detecting, 387; virus of, affecting *Prunus* in U.S.A., 260; *P. virginiana*, 147; *P. besseyi*, 28; western type of, 259.
Pear (*Pyrus communis*), *Alternaria mali*, *A. mali* strain 4, *Aspergillus flavus*, and *A. pyri* on, in N. America, 531.
 —, bitter pit in Rumania, 405.
 —, boron excess in, in U.S.A., 26.
 —, *Botrytis* on, in Switzerland, 457.
 —, — *cinerea* on, in N. America, 531.
 —, brown heart in England, 373.
 —, *Cephalosporium* on, in N. America, 531.
 —, core breakdown in England, 373; India, 338.
 —, *Corticium stevensii* on, in U.S.A., 206; host range of, 206.
 —, decay in N. America, 531.
 —, *Diaporthe ambigua* on, in N. America, 531.
 —, *Erwinia amylovora* on, in U.S.A., 441.
 —, *Gleosporium*, *Helminthosporium*, *Hendersonia*, and *Hormodendrum cladosporioides* on, in N. America, 531.
 —, low temperature injury in India, 338.
 —, — internal breakdown in England, 373.
 —, manganese deficiency in, in S. Africa, 467.
 —, measles in U.S.A., 462.
 —, *Mucor* on, in Switzerland, 457.
 —, — *piriformis* on, in N. America, 531.
 —, *Mycosphaerella sentina* on, in Iran, 99; Spain, 403.
 —, *Neofabraea malicorticis* on, in N. America, 531.
 —, oak bark in U.S.A., 462.
 —, *Penicillium* on, in Switzerland, 457.
 —, — *chrysitidis* and *P. cyclopium* on, in N. America, 531.
 —, — *digitatum* on, in India, 338.
 —, — *expansum* on, in N. America, 531.
 —, — *italicum* on, in India, 338.
 —, — *puberulum*, *P. (?) roquefortii*, *P. tardum*, *P. terrestris*, *Phoma exigua*, and *P. mali* on, in N. America, 531.
 —, *Phoma prunicola* on, in Spain, 403.

[Pear], *Physalospora obtusa* on, in Portugal, 504.
 —, *Phytophthora cactorum* on, in N. America, 531.
 —, *Pleospora fructicola* on, in N. America, 531.
 —, *Podosphaera leucotricha* on, in England, 24.
 —, *Pseudomonas prunicola* on, in England, 25.
 —, *Pytharia* on, in N. America, 531.
 —, *Rhizopus* on, in Switzerland, 457.
 —, *nigricans* on, in N. America, 531.
 —, scald in India, 338; U.S.A., 295.
 —, *Sclerotinia fructicola* on, 464; N. America, 531.
 —, — *fructigena* on, in Germany, 460.
 —, — *laxa* on, in England, 24; Germany, 460.
 —, *Sporotrichum malorum*, *Stemphylium*, and *S. No. 2* on, in N. America, 531.
 —, stony pit in U.S.A., 462.
 —, *Trichothecium roseum* on, in N. America, 531.
 —, *Venturia pirina* on, 226; in England, 213; Italy, 377; New Zealand, 144, 294; Portugal, 266; Switzerland, 376; U.S.A., 460; conidial characters of, 226; control, 144, 294, 376, 377; heterothallism in, 460.
 —, waterlogging in India, 338.
 Pecan (*Carya pecan*), boron excess in, in U.S.A., 26.
 —, *Cercospora fusca* on, in Brazil, 246.
 —, *Corticium stevensii* on, in U.S.A., 206.
 —, *Elsinoe randii* on, in U.S.A., 55.
 Pedianthus scab in Hawaii, 371.
 Pelargonium, *Bacterium tumefaciens* can infect, 444.
 —, *Cercospora brunkii* on, in Venezuela, 324.
 Penicillic acid, 344.
 Penicillium, 248.
 Penicillium in the air in U.S.A., 16, 290, 370.
 — in relation to asthma and hay fever of man in Cuba, 452; U.S.A., 16.
 — on apple in Switzerland, 457; U.S.A., 209.
 — on cheese, effect of ultra-violet radiation on, 80.
 — on cherry in U.S.A., 532.
 — on *Echinochloa crus-galli* in U.S.A., 21; *Anacanthinus deplanatus* in relation to, 21.
 — on maize in U.S.A., 368; U.S.S.R., 484.
 — on oak in U.S.A., 272.
 — on orange in Western Australia, 369.
 — on pear in Switzerland, 457.
 — on potato in India, 302.
 — on wheat straw, 134.
 — *camemberti* in milk in U.S.A., 80.
 — *chrysitis* on pear in N. America, 531.
 — *citrinum*, anti-bacterial substance from, 344.
 — *commune* in butter in Germany, 334.
 — *cyclopium*, anti-bacterial substance from, 344.
 — on pear in N. America, 531.
 — on *Scilla nutans* in England and Holland, 141.
 — *digitatum* on citrus in New Zealand, 3.
 — — on pear in India, 338.
 — *divaricatum* on oak in U.S.A., 396.
 — *expansum* on apple in India, 458; (?) New S. Wales, 407; U.S.A., 209, 337; control, 209, 458.
 — — on cherry in U.S.A., 532.
 — — on pear in N. America, 531.
 — *glaucum* on green malt in U.S.A., 153.
 — *italicum* on pear in India, 338.
 — *luteum* on flax in Germany, 453.
 — *oxalicum* in relation to soil erosion, 221.
 — — on maize in U.S.A., 72.
 — *puberulum* on pear in N. America, 531.
 — *roqueforti* in milk in U.S.A., 80.
 — (?) on pear in N. America, 531.

[*Penicillium*] *rugulosum* on wood pulp in Sweden, 58.
 — *spinulosum*, antibacterial substance from, 344.
 — *stoloniferum* on bread in U.S.A., 342.
 — *tardum* and *P. terrestris* on pear in N. America, 531.
 — *thomii* on *Cypripedium callosomum* in England, 141.
 — *viridicatum* on maize in the Argentine, 184, 413.
Pennisetum alopecuroides, *Sphacelia sorghi* on, in India, 485.
 — *purpureum*, *Helminthosporium* on, in Ceylon, 66.
 — — *sacchari* on, in Hawaii, 21, 258, 371.
 — — potassium deficiency in, in U.S.A., 371.
 — *typhoides*, *Gibberella fujikuroi* on, in India, 161.
 — — *Ophiobolus miyabeanus* on, in India, 362.
 Pentachloroethane, use of, against *Peronospora tabacina*, 505.
 Pentachlorophenol, use of, against *Chaetomium globosum* on textiles, 152; as a timber preservative, 59, 436.
 Pentachlorphenate, use of, as a timber preservative, 315.
Pentalonix nigrorivosa transmitting a banana virus disease, 88.
 Pepper, black (*Piper nigrum*), *Pestalotia pipericola* on, in India, 504.
 —, cayenne, see Chilli.
Peregrinus maidis transmitting maize mosaic, 413.
 Perenoxy, use of, against *Cephaleuros mycoidea* on tea, 391; *Cercospora musae*, 242; *Phytophthora infestans*, 470.
Periconia azaleae synonym of *Briosia azaleae*, 47.
Peridermium pini on pine, nomenclature of, 312.
 — *truncicola*, 312.
Perkinsiella saccharicida transmitting sugar-cane Fiji disease, 503.
 Permatol, use of, as a timber preservative, 177.
Peromyscus, *Coccidioides immitis* can infect, 333.
Peronospora antirrhini on *Antirrhinum* in New S. Wales, 123.
 — *arborescens* on opium poppy in Iran, 99.
 — *effusa* on *Chenopodium album*, spore dispersal in, 499.
 — — on spinach in U.S.A., 63.
 — *geranii* on *Geranium carolinianum* in U.S.A., 499.
 — *hyoscyami* on *Atropa belladonna* in U.S.A., 222.
 — *manshurica* on soy-bean in U.S.A., 361.
 — *nicotianae* on *Nicotiana alpina* and tobacco in the Argentine, 226.
 — *oerteliana* on *Primula juliae* in England, 141.
 — *parasitica* on cabbage, spore dispersal in, 499.
 — — on *Lepidium virginicum* in U.S.A., 499.
 — *schachtii* on beet in U.S.A., 317; U.S.S.R., 237.
 — *schleideniana* on onion in S. Africa, 181; U.S.A., 63.
 — *tabacina* on chilli and *Nicotiana repanda* in U.S.A., 5.
 — — on tobacco in U.S.A., 499, 505, 506; spore dispersal of, 499.
 — *trifoliorum* on lucerne in U.S.A., 22.
Persea americana, see Avocado pear.
 Persimmon (*Diospyros virginiana*), boron excess in, in U.S.A., 26.
 —, *Corticium stevensii* on, in U.S.A., 206.

Pestalopezia brunneo-pruinosa on *Gaultheria shallon* in U.S.A., 504; *Dermatea brunneo-pruinosa* renamed, 504.
 — *rhododendri* on *Rhododendron* in U.S.A., 504.
Pestalotia in India and Burma, 504.
 — in relation to *Pestalopezia*, 504.
 — *citrin* on grapefruit in India, 504.
 — *clavispora* on oak in U.S.A., 272.
 — *lawsoniae* on *Lawsonia alba* in India, 505.
 — *molleriana* on *Eucalyptus obliqua* in Uruguay, 130.
 — *pipericola* on *Piper nigrum* in India, 504.
 — *theae* on tea in Sumatra, 324.
 Petrolatum S 642 B.P.M. and petroleum, use of, against *Ceratostomella fimbriata* on *Hevea* rubber, 323. (See also Oil.)
Petroselinum sativum, see Parsley.
Petunia, a banana virus can infect, 88.
 — leaf curl in Africa, 168; host range of, 168.
Pezicula carnea on *Acer rubrum* in Canada, 54; *Cryptosporiopsis* imperfect stage of, 54.
 — *subcarnea* on *Acer pennsylvanicum* in Canada, 54; *Cryptosporiopsis* imperfect stage of, 54.
Pezizella lythri on strawberry in U.S.A., 463.
 PF 89 (Schering A.G.), use of, against *Plasmopara viticola*, 439.
Phaciidaeae, taxonomy of, 472.
Phaciella discolor, *Encoelia kirschsteiniana* synonym of, 225.
Phacidium infestans on *Abies* in Canada, 508.
 — — on pine in Sweden, 356.
 — — on spruce in Canada, 508.
Phaeocryptoplopus gaeumannii on *Abies* in Switzerland, 434.
Phaeosphaerella berolinensis synonym of *Spilosticta inaequalis*, 225.
Phakopsora vitis on vine in Venezuela, 324.
Phalaris minor, manganese deficiency in, in Australia, 285.
Phaseolus virus 2, intracellular inclusions of, 61.
 — *coccineus*, see Beans.
 — *lunatus*, *Cercospora columnare* and *Corticium microsclerotia* on, in Venezuela, 360.
 — diseases, seed disinfection against, in U.S.A., 511.
 — — mosaic in India, 342; transmission of, by *Bemisia gossypiperda*, 342.
 — —, *Phytophthora phaseoli* on, in U.S.A., 478.
 — *vulgaris*, see Beans.
Phellinus cryptarum on timber, *Xestobium rufovillosum* in relation to, 271.
Phenol, use of, against citrus gummosis, 128.
Phenothiazine, use of, against *Cocomyces hiemalis*, *Glomerella cingulata*, and *Venturia inaequalis*, 383.
Phenyl mercury cyanamide, use of, against *Alternaria brassicae*, *A. oleracea*, and *Rhizopus nigricans* on crucifer seed, 246.
Phiala mucosa on *Lolium multiflorum* and *L. perenne*, 455; in New Zealand, 2.
Phialophora fastigiata on wood pulp in Sweden, 58.
Philocendron (?) giganteum, calcium deficiency in, in U.S.A., 20.
Phleum pratense, *Pseudomonas coronafaciens* var. *purpurea* on, in Canada, 122.
Phloeo *Erysiphe cichoracearum* on, in U.S.A., 454.
 —, *Septoria drummondii* on, in Ceylon, 19.
Phylactena tiliiae on *Tilia americana* in U.S.A., 47.
Phoenix dactylifera, see Date palm.
Pholiota adiposa, cultural study on, 59.
 — *mutabilis* on wood pulp in Sweden, 58.
Phoma, decomposition of sulphite liquors by, 278.
 — in the air in U.S.A., 290.
 — on apple in England, 420.
 (?) — on groundnut in Jamaica, 242.
 — on orchid in Puerto Rico, 202.
 — *A* on wood pulp in Sweden, 315.
 — *aposphaeroides* on oak in U.S.A., 272.
 — *betae*, antagonism of, to *Bacillus subtilis*, 178.
 — — on beet, 178; in U.S.A., 178, 510; effect of boric acid and sodium tetraborate on, 178.
 — *citriarpa* on citrus in New S. Wales, 122.
 — *conidiogena* on wood pulp in Sweden, 315.
 — *destructiva* on tomato in Spain, 404.
 — *exigua* on pear in N. America, 531.
 (?) — *fallens* on olive in Spain, 403.
 — *ilicina* on *Ilex aquifolium* in U.S.A., 394.
 — *insidiosa* synonym of *Phyllosticta sorghina*, 204.
 — *lignicola* on wood pulp in Sweden, 58, 315.
 — *lingam* on swede in Canada, 468; New S. Wales, 123.
 — — on turnip in New S. Wales, 123.
 — *mali* on pear in N. America, 531.
 — *pinastri* synonym of *Diplodia pinea*, 398.
 — *pomi* on apple in New Zealand, 3.
 — *prunicola* on pear in Spain, 403.
 — *quercina* on oak in U.S.A., 272.
 — *terrestris* on onion in U.S.A., 117; host range of, 118.
Phomopsis on almond and peach in the Argentine, 185.
 (?) — *lokoyae* on *Pseudotsuga taxifolia* in Canada, 544.
 — *quercina* on oak in U.S.A., 272.
 — *verans* on eggplant in U.S.A., 514; *Diaporthe vexans* perfect stage of, 514.
Phoradendron flavescens var. *macrophyllum*, *Phyllosticta phoradendri* on, in U.S.A., 394.
Phosphorus deficiency in *Axonopus affinis* in U.S.A., 527; beet in U.S.A., 278; cantaloupe in U.S.A., 438; *Lespedeza* in U.S.A., 337; tobacco in U.S.A., 516.
 — — in relation to *Botrytis cinerea* on bean, 62.
Phragmidium formosanum renamed *Phragmotelium formosanum*, 463.
 — *murronatum* on rose in Venezuela, 324.
 — *okianum* renamed *Phragmotelium okianum*, 463.
 — *rubi-fraxinifolii* renamed *Phragmotelium rubi-fraxinifolii*, 463.
 — *violaceum* on *Rubus* in Portugal, 266.
Phragmites, *Gibberella saubinetii* on, in Great Britain, 165.
Phragmotelium formosanum on *Rubus lasiocarpus* in India, 463; *Phragmidium formosanum* renamed, 463.
 — *mysorensis* on *Rubus lasiocarpus* in India, 463.
 — *okianum* on *Rubus lasiocarpus* in India, 463; *Phragmidium okianum* renamed, 463.
 — *rubi-fraxinifolii* on *Rubus lasiocarpus* in India, 463; *Phragmidium rubi-fraxinifolii* renamed, 463.
Phycomyces in the air in U.S.A., 290.
Phycomycetes, classification of aquatic, 267.
 — of Central America, 472; China, 45; S. America, 472.
Phyllachora grattissima on avocado pear in Colombia, 99; Ecuador, 163.
 — *maydis* on maize in Colombia, 99.
Phyllophaga spp., *Bacillus popilliae* can infect, 78.
Phyllosticta on papaw in Brazil, 88.
 — *ampelopsisidis* synonym of *Phyllostictina viticola*, 225.
 — *anthoxcella* on *Anthoxanthum odoratum* in U.S.A., 203.

[*Phyllosticta*] *antirrhini* on *Antirrhinum* in Ceylon, 182.

— *concava* on *Opuntia* in Australia, 33.

— *glumarum-sorghii*, *P. glumarum-setariae*, *P. phari*, *P. penicillariae*, *P. sacchari*, and *P. setariae* synonyms of *P. sorghina*, 204.

— *grandimaculana* on strawberry in England, 86.

— *hesleri* on *Acer saccharum* in U.S.A., 47.

— *labruscae* synonym of *Phyllostictina viticola*, 225.

— *owensii* on *Dactylis glomerata* in U.S.A., 203.

— *phoradendri* on *Phoradendron flavescens* var. *macrophyllum* in U.S.A., 394.

— *roglerii* on *Digitaria sanguinalis* in U.S.A., 204.

— *solitaria* on apple in U.S.A., 441.

— *sorghina* on *Selaria viridis* and *Tricholaena rosea* in U.S.A., 204; synonymy of, 204.

— *viticola* renamed *Phyllostictina viticola*, 225; synonymy of, 225.

— *vulpinae* synonym of *Phyllostictina viticola*, 225.

— *zingiberi* can infect turmeric, 471.

— on ginger in India, 471.

Phymatotrichum omnivorum, hosts of, in U.S.A., 481.

— on *Albizia julibrissin* in U.S.A., 127.

— on cotton in U.S.A., 127, 137, 253, 414; control, 127, 414; soil fungi in relation to, 137.

— on *Prunus virens* in U.S.A., 127.

— on vine in U.S.A., 318.

— (?), (?) toxicity of ammonium salts and lycopene to, 75.

— utilization of inorganic nitrogen by, 287.

(?) *Physalis peruviana*, tobacco leaf curl can infect, 167.

Physospora cydoniae on *Pyrus* in U.S.A., 5.

— *ilicis* on *Ilex aquifolium* in U.S.A., 394.

— *myrsinæana* on *Salix* in Canada, 172, 544; U.S.A., 355.

— *mutila* on medlar in Iran, 99.

— *obtusa* on apple in Uruguay, 129; U.S.A., 337.

— on pear in Portugal, 504.

Physoderma maydis on maize in Venezuela, 351.

Phytolacca decandra, lucerne mosaic can infect, 516.

Phytomonas, the genus, not accepted, 364.

— lipolytic activity of, 518.

— *alliicola* on onion in U.S.A., 325.

— *caryophylli* on carnation in U.S.A., 325.

— *corylina* on *Corylus avellana* in U.S.A., 310.

— *fuscians* renamed *Corynebacterium fuscians*, 365.

— *flaccumfaciens* renamed *Corynebacterium flaccumfaciens*, 365.

— *insidiosa* renamed *Corynebacterium insidiosum*, 365.

— *manihotis* on cassava in U.S.A., 325.

— *michiganensis* renamed *Corynebacterium michiganense*, 365.

— *polycolor* on tobacco in the Philippines, 167; (?) identical with *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, 167.

— *primulae* on *Primula polyantha* in Canada, 122.

— *rathayi* renamed *Corynebacterium rathayi*, 365.

— *sepedonicum*, see *Corynebacterium sepedonicum*.

— *vesicatoria* var. *raphani* on tomato in U.S.A., 52.

Phytopathology, see Plant diseases.

Phytophthora on *Hevea* rubber in Dutch E. Indies, 42; Sumatra, 323.

— on orange in India, 363.

[*Phytophthora*] on orchid in Puerto Rico, 202.

— on pineapple in Queensland, 183.

— *arecae*, taxonomy of, 165.

— *boehmeriae* on orange in the Argentine, 185.

— *cactorum*, antidoting toxin of, 104.

— hosts of, in U.S.A., 394.

— on loquat in U.S.A., 422.

— on *Melilotus* in Canada, 121.

— on pear in N. America, 531.

— on strawberry in U.S.A., 463.

— —, *Rozella barrettii* on, 428.

— *cambivora* on chestnut in Spain, 354, 404, 434, 475; control, 354, 434, 475.

— *capsici* can infect eggplant, squash, and tomato, 118.

— on *Capsicum annuum* var. *grossum* and *Cucurbita pepo* var. *condensa* in U.S.A., 118.

— *cinnamomi* on avocado pear in U.S.A., 149.

— *citrophthora* on lemon in the Argentine, 185, 195.

— on orange in the Argentine, 195; Chile, 443; the Philippines, 66.

— *cryptogea*, *Rozellopsis waterhousei* on, 428.

— *fragariae* on strawberry in U.S.A., 86, 340, 341, 421, 463, 496; breeding against, 421; control, 86; factors affecting, 341; varietal reaction to, 86, 496.

— *infestans*, biotype A, 217.

— on potato, 218, 501; in Bermuda, 321; Canada, 122, 468; England, 345, 470; Germany, 217, 262; India, 2; Kenya, 426; the Philippines, 67; Switzerland, 497; U.S.A., 301, 390, 425, 500; arginin content in relation to, 217; breeding against, 67; control, 345, 425, 426, 470, 497; effect of, on starch grain structure, 390; on yield, 497; factors affecting, 501; nitrogen metabolism in relation to, 218; physiologic races of, 262, 468; varietal reaction to, 67, 217, 262, 426, 501.

— on tomato in England, 474; Switzerland, 497.

— *lateris* on *Chamaecyparis* in U.S.A., 276.

— *meadii*, taxonomy of, 165.

— *megasperma*, *Pythiomorpha gonapodyoides* identical with, 165.

—, *Rozellopsis waterhousei* on, 428.

— *palmivora* on cacao in Colombia, 6; Venezuela, 324.

— on coco-nut in Ceylon, 331.

— on palm in India, 464; legislation against, in India, 464.

—, production of sexual organs by, 165.

—, taxonomy of, 165.

— *parasitica* on *Atropa belladonna* in U.S.A., 222.

— on eggplant in India, 2.

— on grapefruit in U.S.A., 486.

— on lemon and lime in the Argentine, 195.

— on orange in the Argentine, 195; U.S.A., 486.

— on papaw in Hawaii, 150, 382.

— on potato in India, 1.

— on tomato in Canada, 53, 170.

— var. *nicotianae* on tobacco in Java, 226; Mauritius, 126.

— *phaseoli* on *Phaseolus lunatus* in U.S.A., 478.

Picea, see Spruce.

Piesma cinereum transmitting beet savoy disease, 399.

Pigeon pea (*Cajanus cajan*), *Fusarium vasinfectum* on, in India, 363.

—, *Uromyces dolicholi* on, in S. Africa, 47.

Piggotia fraxini imperfect stage of *Mycosphaerella effigurata*, 54.

— on ash in U.S.A., 100.

Pigs, toxicity of *Gibberella saubinetii* on barley to, 70.

Pimento (*Pimenta officinalis*), *Puccinia psidii* on, in Jamaica, 242.

Pimpinella anisum, crown rot of, in U.S.A., 221.

Pinaceae, mycorrhiza of, in U.S.A., 313.

Pine (*Pinus*), *Armillaria mellea* on, in U.S.A., 56.

—, *Boletus bovinus* on, forming mycorrhiza in England, 298.

—, —, *granulatus* and *B. luteus* on, forming mycorrhiza in Sweden, 389.

—, boron deficiency in, in Australia, 407.

—, *Botrytis* on, in U.S.A., 174.

—, *Corticium solani* on, 303; in Canada, 508.

—, *Cronartium coleosporioides*, *C. comandrae*, and *C. comptoniae* on, in Canada, 395.

—, —, *fusiforme* on, in U.S.A., 111.

—, —, *ribicola* on, in Canada, 543; U.S.A., 105, 355, 508, 533; control, 105; *Ribes* eradication against, 105.

—, *Cunninghamella meinickella* on, in U.S.A., 233.

— die-back in Cyprus, 56.

—, *Diplodia pinea* on, in Canada, 398; U.S.A., 100; synonymy of, 398.

—, *Dothistroma pini* on, in U.S.A., 275.

—, *Fusarium* on, in Canada, 508; U.S.A., 174.

—, *Lenzites sepiaria* on, in India, 399.

—, *Macrophomina phaseoli* can infect, 275.

—, mycorrhiza of, in U.S.A., 90.

—, needle blight in Canada, 356.

—, fusion in Australia, 407; England and U.S.A., 312.

—, late fall in Canada, 356.

—, *Peridermium pini* on, nomenclature of, 312.

—, *Phacidium infestans* on, in Sweden, 356.

—, *Polyporus ellisianus* on, in U.S.A., 234.

—, *Polystictus versicolor* on, in India, 399.

—, *Pullularia pullulans* on, in Canada, 356; synonymy of, 356.

—, *Pythium de Baryanum* on, in Canada, 508.

—, *Rhizoctonia* on, in U.S.A., 174.

—, *Sclerotoderma aurantium* on, forming mycorrhiza in Sweden, 389.

—, *Trametes alaskana* on, in Canada and U.S.A., 398.

—, *Trichoderma* on, in U.S.A., 174.

—, *Tricholoma pessundatum* on, forming mycorrhiza in Sweden, 389.

—, zinc deficiency in, in Western Australia, 397.

Pineapple (*Ananas comosus*), black heart of, in Queensland, 183.

—, *Ceratostomella paradoxa* on, in Venezuela, 324.

—, crook-neck in Queensland, 183.

—, gummosis in Puerto Rico, 408.

—, *Phytophthora* on, in Queensland, 183.

Piper nigrum. see Pepper, black.

Piricularia can infect *Setaria italica*, 363.

— on *Eleusine coracana* in India, 363.

—, *grisea* on *Setaria lutescens* in U.S.A., 493.

—, *oryzae* on *Oryza* spp. in Japan, 96.

—, — on rice in the Argentine, 518; India, 362; Japan, 96, 160; U.S.A., 128, 502; Venezuela, 324; nature of resistance to, 160; study on, 160; varietal reaction to, 362, 502.

—, *setariae* can infect *Eleusine coracana*, 363.

Pistachio nut (*Pistacia vera*) rosette in U.S.S.R., 210; transmission of, by *Liothrips pistaciae*, 211.

Pisum sativum, see Pea.

— virus 2, see Pea mosaic.

Plant diseases, breeding against, 498.

—, effect of, on yield, 33; determination of, 159.

[Plant diseases] in Ceylon, 213; Scotland, 439; Southern Rhodesia, 213; Texas, 481; U.S.A., 33, 53, 262, 272, 321; Venezuela, 324.

—, losses caused by, 502, 542.

—, method of recording incidence of, 154.

—, organization against, in Germany, 535.

—, problems of, 151.

—, recent developments in, in U.S.A., 213.

—, seed-borne, legislation against, 112.

—, soil microflora in relation to, 502.

—, spread of, 154.

—, text-book on Singalese, 213.

—, transmission of, by insects, 151.

—, pathogens, aerial dissemination of, 283.

—, protection in England, Germany, and Wales, 465.

—, quarantin in Australia, report on, 318.

Plantago lanceolata, tobacco mosaic affecting, in U.S.A., 227; named *Marmor tabaci* var. *plantaginis*, 228.

— major virus on tobacco in U.S.A., 227, 516.

Plasmodiophora brassicae on cabbage in England, 177; U.S.A., 442.

— on cauliflower in England, 177.

— on crucifers, legislation against, in England, 64.

— on swede and turnip in England, 317; Norway, 478.

Plasmopara calaminthae on *Calamintha chinensis* in China, 45.

— *halstedii* on *Ambrosia* in U.S.A., 499; spore dispersal of, 499.

— *viticola* on vine in Brazil, 319; Bulgaria, 402; Germany, 241, 439, 479; Italy, 240; Spain, 402; Switzerland, 183, 279, 497, 515; U.S.A., 318; control, 240, 241, 279, 318, 319, 402, 439, 479, 497, 515; factors affecting, 402, 480; varietal reaction to, 319, 479.

Platanus orientalis, *Mycosphaerella stigmplatani* on, in Iran, 99.

Plectodiscella veneta, see *Elsinoe veneta*.

Pleocyla sacchari on sugar-cane in Cuba, 99.

Pleopodium synonym of *Rozella*, 351.

Pleosphaerulina briosiana var. *macrospora* on clover in Portugal, 504.

Pleospora, *Thyropyrosa* synonym of, 224.

— *fructicola* on pear in N. America, 531.

— *herbarum* on lucerne in Canada, 121; U.S.A., 22.

Pleurotus on *Erythrina* in Colombia, 8.

— *ostreatus*, cultural study on, 59.

— on lupin in U.S.A., 293.

—, sex in, 273.

— *ulmarius*, cultural study on, 59.

Pliofilm wrappers, use of, against storage disorders of citrus, 331.

Plum (*Prunus domestica*), boron deficiency in, in S. Australia, 125.

—, excess in, in U.S.A., 26.

—, *Clitocybe tabescens* on, in U.S.A., 497.

—, *Cylindrocladium* on, in England, 24.

—, dwarf canker of, in U.S.A., 83, 462.

—, dwarf in Canada, 146; U.S.A., 147.

—, line-pattern mosaic in Canada, 146.

—, little leaf in Australia, 407; boron and manganese deficiency in relation to, 407.

—, manganese deficiency in, in S. Africa, 467.

—, *Nectria* on, in Tanganyika, 282.

—, peach line-pattern virosis affecting, in U.S.A., 146.

—, — ring spot virosis can infect, 85.

—, potassium deficiency in, in U.S.A., 461.

—, *Pseudomonas mors-prunorum* on, in England, 25.

GENERAL INDEX

[Plum], *Puccinia pruni-spinosae* on, in New S. Wales, 244.
 —, — *Sclerotinia fructicola* on, in U.S.A., 27, 146.
 —, — *fructigena* on, 27; in England, 213; factors affecting viability of conidia of, 27.
 —, — *laxa* on, 27; in England, 213; U.S.A., 27, 420; factors affecting viability of conidia of, 27.
 —, *Stereum purpureum* on, 459.
 —, *Ustulina zonata* on, in Tanganyika, 281.
 —, *Xanthomonas pruni* on, in New Zealand, 2.
Pnychia scabiei in relation to *Actinomyces scabies* on potato, 441.
Poa angustifolia, *Ustilago poae* f. sp. *repentii-pratensis* can infect, 203.
 — *palustris*, *Erysiphe graminis* on, in U.S.A., 493.
 — *pratensis*, bends disease of, in U.S.A., 493.
 —, — *Claviceps purpurea* on, in New Zealand, 452.
 —, — seed disinfection of, 372.
 —, — *Ustilago poae* f. sp. *repentii-pratensis* on, in Switzerland, 203.
Podosphaera leucotricha on apple, 459; in England, 213; New Zealand, 144, 294; Switzerland, 280; control, 280, 294, 459; varietal reaction to, 144, 213, 280.
 — on pear in England, 24.
 Poliflor, use of, against *Phytophthora* on *Hevea* rubber, 323.
Polygonum aviculare, *Erysiphe polygoni* on, in Canada, 261.
Polypodium vulgare and its var. *serratum*, *Milesia dietiana* on, wrongly identified as *Gloeosporium polypodiis*, 455.
 Polyporaceae, anatomy of Austrian, 267.
 —, pigment of, 36.
Polyporus arcularius on wood pulp, 357.
 — *basilaris* on *Cupressus macrocarpa* in U.S.A., 313.
 — *circinatus* on conifers in Canada, 174; renamed *P. tomentosus* var. *circinatus*, 174.
 — on spruce in Canada, 57.
 — *coffeeae* on coffee in Java, 287.
 — *compactus* on oak in U.S.A., 396.
 — var. *vulpinus* on poplar in Canada, 544.
 — *dryophilus* on oak in U.S.A., 396.
 — *dualis* on conifers in Canada, 174.
 — *ellisianus* on pine in U.S.A., 234.
 — *fissilis*, *P. hispidus*, and *P. ludovicianus* on oak in U.S.A., 396.
 — *schweinitzii* on larch and spruce in England, 234.
 — on timber, penetration of, 110.
 — *spraguei* on oak in U.S.A., 396.
 — *sulphureus* on *Eucalyptus globulus* in U.S.A., 394.
 — on oak in U.S.A., 396.
 — *tomentosus* on conifers in Canada, 174.
 — var. *circinatus*, *P. circinatus* renamed, 174.
 — *zonalis* on oak in U.S.A., 396.
Polyspora lini on flax, 489; in New Zealand, 3, 334.
Polystictus on *Erythrina* in Colombia, 8.
 — *hirsutus* on wood pulp, 357; in Sweden, 58.
 — *sanguineus* on *Shorea robusta* in India, 399.
 —, sex in, 273.
 — *versicolor* on pine in India, 399.
 — on *Thuja plicata*, resistance to, 312.
 — on wood pulp, 357; in Sweden, 58, 314.
 Pomarsol, use of, against *Venturia inaequalis*, 375.
 Pomegranate (*Punica granatum*), *Cercospora punicae* on, in Iran, 99.
 Pomelo, see Grapefruit.
Popillia japonica, *Bacillus lentimorbus* on, in U.S.A., 78.
 —, — *popilliae* on, in U.S.A., 78, 417; hosts of, 78.
 —, — *Beauveria bassiana* on, method of obtaining spores of, 253.
 Poplar (*Populus*), *Corticium salmonicolor* on, in Mauritius, 126.
 —, *Cytospora chrysosperma* on, in Iran, 99.
 —, *Fomes fomentarius* on, in U.S.A., 475–6.
 —, (?) *Melampsora albertensis* on, in the Argentine and Uruguay, 173.
 —, — *larici-populina* on, in the Argentine, 173.
 —, *Polyporus dryophilus* var. *vulpinus* on, in Canada, 544.
 —, *Septoria musiva* on, in Canada, 544.
 —, — *populi* on, in Iran, 99.
 —, *Trametes morganii* on, in U.S.A., 397.
 Poppy, see *Papaver*.
 —, opium, see Opium poppy.
Populus, see Poplar.
 — *tremuloides*, see Aspen.
Poria in Oregon, 508.
 — *andersonii* and *P. cocos* on oak in U.S.A., 396.
 — *incrassata* on *Thuja plicata*, resistance to, 312.
 — on timber in U.S.A., 397.
 — *inflata* on oak in U.S.A., 396.
 — *prunicola* in relation to *P. spiculosa*, 271.
 — *ravenala* on oil palm in Sumatra, 323.
 — *spiculosa* on hickory and oak in U.S.A., 270; *Fomes igniarius* var. *laevigatus* and *P. prunicola* in relation to, 271.
 — *subacida* on spruce in Canada, 57.
 — *vaporaria* on timber, 436.
 — *vulgaris* on timber in Canada, 476.
 — *weiri* on *Pseudotsuga taxifolia* in Canada, 544.
 — — on *Thuja plicata* in U.S.A., 508.
 — — on timber, penetration of, 110.
 — *xantha* on timber in Canada, 476.
 Potassium carbonate, use of, against potassium deficiency in oil palm, 196.
 — chloride, use of, against potassium deficiency in apple, 528; *Pennisetum purpureum*, 371.
 — deficiency in *Ailanthus altissima*, 53; apple and cantaloupe in U.S.A., 438; *Catalpa speciosa*, 53; cotton in U.S.A., 74; elm, 53; *Lespedeza* in U.S.A., 337; *Mucuna deeringiana* in Hawaii, 371; oil palm in Dutch E. Indies, 196; *Pennisetum purpureum* in U.S.A., 371; plum in U.S.A., 461; potato, 41.
 — — in relation to *Botrytis cinerea* on bean, 62; *Pseudomonas angulata* and *P. tabaci* on tobacco, 308.
 — dichromate, bacteriostatic action of, 365.
 — — a constituent of Wolman salts, 358.
 — permanganate, use of, against manganese deficiency in bean, 467.
 — sulphate, use of, against magnesium deficiency in oil palm, 196; against potassium deficiency in apple, 528; in oil palm, 196; plum, 461.
 —, see also Fertilizers.
Potato (*Solanum tuberosum*), *Actinomyces scabies* on, 156, 217; in Chile, 470; Uruguay, 240; U.S.A., 38, 95, 157, 265, 301, 386, 441, 469; breeding against, 38; control, 95; factors affecting, 386, 469; legislation against, in Uruguay, 240; *Pnychia scabiei* in relation to, 441; soil microfauna in relation to, 266; staining technique for detection of, 156, 217; survival of, in soil, 157; varietal reaction to, 38.

[Potato], *Alternaria solani* on, in Chile, 470; Ecuador, 346; India, 1; U.S.A., 301; varietal reaction to, 1.
 — aucuba mosaic in Chile, 470; serology of, 425.
 —, *Bacterium solanacearum* on, in U.S.A., 216.
 — black heart in India, 302.
 —, blackening of tubers of, on boiling in Great Britain, 41; U.S.A., 441.
 —, boron deficiency in, in England, 219.
 — calico in U.S.A., 301.
 —, cold injury to, in Eire, 219.
 —, copper deficiency in, in (?) U.S.A., 441; Western Australia, 92.
 —, *Corticium solani* on, in Chile, 470; Germany, 38; Hungary, 501; U.S.A., 37, 95, 263, 301, 322, 345; control, 37, 263, 345; varietal reaction to, 322.
 —, *Corynebacterium sepedonicum* on, 302, 469; in Canada, 122; U.S.A., 94, 95, 263, 301, 322, 341, 390, 441, 501, 502, 537; U.S.S.R., 40; Venezuela, 324, 346; control, 94, 95, 263, 322, 537; detection of, by Gram stain and ultraviolet rays, 263, 390; by a serological method, 40; factors affecting, 341; in relation to internal mahogany browning, 302; losses caused by, 502; taxonomy of, 469; transmission of, by insects, 501.
 —, cranberry false blossom can infect, 340.
 — curly dwarf in U.S.A., 301.
 — degeneration, auxin content in relation to, 500; in Germany, 217. (See also mosaic, virus diseases, &c.)
 — diseases in Southern Rhodesia, 216; U.S.A., 37, 262.
 —, *Erwinia carotovora* on, in Chile, 470.
 —, — *phytophthora* on, in Brazil, 262; Chile, 470; U.S.A., 301.
 —, *Fusarium* on, in India, 2; U.S.A., 301.
 —, — *avenaceum* on, in U.S.A., 158.
 —, — *coeruleum* on, in U.S.A., 301.
 —, — *oxysporum* on, in U.S.A., 39, 158.
 —, — *solani* on, in U.S.A., 39.
 —, — var. *eumartii* on, in U.S.A., 39, 158, 301.
 —, *Helicobasidium purpureum* on, legislation against, in Uruguay, 240.
 —, high-temperature breakdown of, in U.S.A., 538.
 — hollow heart in U.S.A., 537.
 —, internal mahogany browning of, in U.S.A., 302.
 — leaf roll, 302, 500; in Bermuda, 321; Chile, 470; Germany, 94, 218; U.S.A., 159, 301, 322, 499; auxin content in relation to, 94, 500; diagnosis of, 218; effect of, on yield, 159; in relation to internal mahogany browning, 302; transmission of, by *Macrosiphum solanifoliae* and *Aphis abbreviata*, 499; varietal reaction to, 321.
 —, — rolling mosaic in Germany, 500; virus of, (?) identical with potato virus K, 500.
 —, *Macrophomina phaseoli* on, in U.S.A., 501.
 —, manganese deficiency in, in England, 219; S. Africa, 467; U.S.A., 441; Western Australia, 68, 92; control, 68, 441, 467; in relation to potato sickness, 219.
 — mosaic, 268; in Chile, 470; Germany, 94; U.S.A., 301, 499; antagonism of, to tobacco mosaic, 268; auxin content in relation to, 94.
 —, *Penicillium* on, in India, 302.
 —, *Phytophthora infestans* on, 218, 501; in Bermuda, 321; Canada, 122, 468; England, 345, 470; Germany, 217, 262; India, 2; Kenya, 426; the Philippines, 67; Switzerland, 497; U.S.A., 301, 390, 425, 500; arginin content in relation to, 217; breeding against, 67; control, 345, 425, 426, 470, 497; effect of, on starch grain structure, 390; on yield, 497; factors affecting, 501; nitrogen metabolism in relation to, 218; physiologic races of, 262, 468; varietal reaction to, 67, 217, 262, 426, 501.
 [Potato, *Phytophthora*] *parasitica* on, in India, 1.
 —, potassium deficiency in, 41.
 — rugose mosaic in U.S.A., 499.
 —, *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum* on, in Chile, 470.
 — seed certification in S. Africa, 499.
 — — piece decay in U.S.A., 345.
 — sickness in England, 219; trace elements in relation to, 219.
 — spindle tuber, 425; in Chile, 470; (?) New S. Wales, 407; U.S.A., 301, 499; Venezuela, 324; serology of, 425.
 —, *Spondylocladium atrovirens* on, in Chile, 470; U.S.A., 301.
 —, *Spongospora subterranea* on, in Chile, 470; legislation against, in Uruguay, 240.
 — stem-end browning in U.S.A., 322.
 — streak, 265; in Venezuela, 324; in relation to potato tuber blotch, 265.
 —, *Synchytrium endobioticum* on, in Sweden, 157; legislation against, in Germany, 320; Uruguay, 240; varietal reaction to, 157.
 —, tomato spotted wilt affecting, in New S. Wales, 244; hosts of, 244.
 — tuber blotch in Eire, 265; serology of, 425.
 — — cracking in U.S.A., 40.
 —, *Verticillium albo-atrum* on, in Chile, 470.
 — virus diseases in England, 536; U.S.A., 322; control, 322, 536; effect of, on starch grain structure, 390; methods of testing tubers for, 93. (See also degeneration, mosaic, &c.)
 — — nomenclature, 536.
 — — A on potato, 500; in Germany, 218, 469; auxin content in relation to, 500; diagnosis of, 218; serology of, 500; transmission of, by *Myzus persicae*, 469; varietal reaction to, 469.
 — — B, C, D, F, and G, relationship of, to potato tuber blotch, 265.
 — — K in Germany, 500; (?) identical with potato leaf-rolling mosaic virus, 500.
 — — X on potato, 90, 265, 425, 500; in (?) Brazil, 94; Chile, 470; Germany, 218, 469; auxin content in relation to, 500; diagnosis of, 218; in relation to potato tuber blotch, 265; serology of, 425, 500; ultrafiltration of, 90; varietal reaction to, 469.
 — — Y on potato, 500; in (?) Brazil, 94; England, 302; Germany, 218, 469; diagnosis of, 218; transmission of, by *Aphis ramni*, 302; *Myzus persicae*, 302, 469; serology of, 500; varietal reaction to, 469.
 — — witches' broom of, in U.S.A., 301.
 —, *Xylaria* (?) *apiculata* on, in U.S.A., 95.
 — yellow dwarf in U.S.A., 36, 264, 442; clover strain named *Marmor vastans* var. *agalliae*, 36; control, 264; hosts of, 264; transmission of, by *Aceratagallia sanguinolenta*, 263; *Agallia constricta*, 36; varietal reaction to, 264, 442.
 — — top in U.S.A., 499.
 —, zinc deficiency in, in England, 219; U.S.A., 441; in relation to potato sickness, 219.
 Preparation 122, use of, against *Plasmopara viticola*, 439.
 Prickly pear, see *Opuntia*.
Primula juliae, *Cercospora primulae*, *Peronospora oersteliana*, and *Ramularia primulae* on, in England, 141.

[*Primula*] *obconica* mosaic in U.S.A., 201.
 — —, *Thielaviopsis basicola* on, in Holland, 431.
 — — *polyantha*, *Phytonomas primulae* on, in Canada, 122.
Privet (*Ligustrum*), *Bacterium ligustri* on, in Portugal, 243.
Propionic acid, use of, against moulds in dairy products, 80.
Prosthecium, revision of the genus, 101.
Prune, see Plum.
Prunus spp., list of, susceptible to *Clasterosporium carpophilum*, 338.
 — virus 9, *Prunus serrulata* rough bark virus named, 463.
 — — 10, *Prunus serrulata* banded chlorosis virus named, 532.
 — —, X disease of peach affecting, in U.S.A., 260.
 — *amygdalus*, see Almond.
 — *armeniaca*, see Apricot.
 — *avium*, see Cherry.
 — *besseyi*, X disease of peach can infect, 28.
 — *capula* var. *salicifolia*, *Puccinia prunispinosae* on, in Ecuador, 163.
 — *cerasus*, see Cherry.
 — *demissa*, cherry buckskin affecting, in U.S.A., 84.
 — *domestica*, see Plum.
 — *mahaleb* and *P. mira*, cherry buckskin can infect, 83-4.
 — *persica*, see Nectarine, Peach.
 — *serrulata*, banded chlorosis of, in U.S.A., 532; nomenclature of, 532.
 — —, rough bark of, in U.S.A., 462; virus of, named *Prunus* virus 9 and *Rimocortius kwanzani*, 463.
 — *virens*, *Phytophotrichum omnivorum* on, in U.S.A., 127.
 — *virginiana*, cherry yellows affecting, in U.S.A., 442.
 — —, X disease of peach can infect, 147.
Psalliota campestris, see Mushroom.
Pseudococcus, *Endosclerotium pseudococcia* on, in U.S.A., 332.
Pseudomonas, generic characters of, 365.
 — lipolytic activity of, 517.
 — *aeruginosa* (?) identical with *Phytonomas polycolor*, 167.
 — — on tobacco in relation to leaf spot and necrosis, 268.
 — *angulata* on tobacco in U.S.A., 166, 308, 431, 517, 540; factors affecting, 308, 431; overwintering of, 167, 308, 517.
 — *coronafaciens* var. *purpurea* on *Bromus* and *Phleum pratense* in Canada, 122.
 — *lacrymans* on cucumber in U.S.A., 341.
 — *medicaginis* var. *phaseolicola* on beans in Germany, 512; Switzerland, 495; U.S.A., 358.
 — *mori* as food for soil protozoa, 283.
 — *mors-prunorum* on peach in England, 461.
 — — on plum in England, 25.
 — *prunicola* on pear in England, 25.
 — *ruberlineans* on sugar-cane in Cuba, 99.
 — *savastanoi* on olive in Portugal, 243.
 — *syringae* as a food for soil protozoa, 283.
 — — on lemon in Portugal, 243.
 — *tabaca* on tobacco in U.S.A., 166, 308, 431, 540; factors affecting, 308, 431, 540; overwintering of, 167.
Pseudoperonospora cubensis on cucumber in U.S.A., 117, 317; Venezuela, 324.
 — *hunulii* on hops in U.S.A., 63, 245; method for estimating infection of, 391.
Pseudopeziza medicaginis on lucerne in Iran, 99; U.S.A., 22.
 — *meliloti* on *Melilotus* in U.S.A., 22.
 — — *ribis* on currants in U.S.A., 245.
 — — on gooseberry in England, 24; Switzerland, 280.
Pseudotsuga taxifolia, *Armillaria mellea* on, damping-off of, and *Fomes annosus* on, in Canada, 544.
 — —, *Macrophomina phaseoli* can infect, 275.
 — —, (?) *Phomopsis lokoyae* and *Poria weiri* on, in Canada, 544.
Pseudovals, revision of the genus, 101.
Psidium guajava, see Guava.
 — *molle*, *Clitocybe tabescens* on, in U.S.A., 497.
Ptychogaster cubensis on *Myrica cerifera* and oak in U.S.A., 395.
Puccinia, air-borne spores of, in relation to asthma and hay fever of man in U.S.A., 16.
 — — on cereals, aerial dissemination of, 283.
 — — on orchid in Puerto Rico, 202.
 — — on wheat in Rumania, 249.
 — — *anomala*, cytology of, 243.
 — — on *Hordeum murinum* subsp. *leporinum* in Uruguay, 129.
 — — *antirrhini* on *Antirrhinum* in Hawaii, 350; Rhodesia, 142; Scotland, 440; S. Africa, 47, 142.
 — — *arachidis* on *Arachis marginata* in Uruguay, 129.
 — — on groundnut in Jamaica, 242; U.S.A., 362.
 — — *asparagi* on asparagus, 437; in U.S.A., 236; legislation against, in Germany, 320.
 — — *boutelouae* (?) identical with *P. vezans*, 253.
 (?) — — on *Bouteloua aristidoides* and *B. barbata* in U.S.A., 253.
 — — *carthami* on safflower in Rumania, 405.
 (?) — — *coronata* on cedar in Canada, 544.
 — — on grasses, *Darluca filum* parasitizing, in U.S.A., 493.
 — — on oats in the Argentine, 184, 518; Canada, 121, 544; U.S.A., 8, 251, 330, 441, 484; breeding against, 251; effect of, on yield, 251; physiologic races of, 184; varietal reaction to, 8, 184, 251, 330, 441.
 (?) — — on *Rhamnus purshiana* in Canada, 544.
 — — *droogensis* on barberry in India, 539.
 — — *glumaram* on cereals, physiologic races of, 410.
 — — on wheat in the Argentine, 187, 518; China, 410; England, 154; physiologic races of, 410; *Tilletia caries* in relation to, 154; varietal reaction to, 187, 518.
 — — *graminis* on barberry, 445; in Iran, 99.
 — — on grasses in U.S.A., 337, 493; *Darluca filum* parasitizing, 493.
 — — on oats in U.S.A., 8, 251, 284, 330, 441; breeding against, 251; earliest epidemic of, 284; effect of, on yield, 251; varietal reaction to, 8, 251, 330, 441.
 — — on wheat, 132, 188, 445; in the Argentine, 184, 187, 247, 518; Australia, 283; Canada, 121, 132, 189, 468; China, 410; Peru, 517; Rumania, 249; S. Australia, 124; U.S.A., 187, 189, 248, 283, 284, 387; barberry eradication against, 445; breeding against, 124, 188, 189, 517; control, 249; earliest epidemic of, in U.S.A., 284; effect of, on yield, 248; factors affecting, 132, 189, 387; germination of, 132; physiologic races of, 132, 184, 187, 189, 283, 410, 468; varietal reaction to, 124, 132, 187, 189, 249, 468.
 — — *helianthi* on sunflower in Jamaica, 242; Rumania, 405.
 — — *iridis* on *Iris* in Great Britain, 81.

[*Puccinia*] *kuehnii* on *Saccharum arundinaceum*, *Darluca filum* parasitizing, in India, 472.
 — — on *Saccharum spontaneum* in S. Africa, 47.
 — *maydis* on maize in Ecuador, 163.
 — *mccleanii* on *Gladiolus* in S. Africa, 47.
 — *montanensis* and *P. poae-sudeticae* on grasses, *Darluca filum* parasitizing, in U.S.A., 493.
 — *polysora* on *Euchlaena mexicana* in Guatemala, 73.
 — — on maize in U.S.A., 73; geographical distribution of, 73; wrongly referred to *P. sorghi*, 73.
 — *pruni-persicae* on peach in Iran, 99.
 — *pruni-spinosae*, cytology of, 243.
 — — on *Anemone* in England, 491; Portugal, 243.
 — — on peach in New S. Wales, 123.
 — — on plum in New S. Wales, 244.
 — — on *Prunus capula* var. *salicifolia* in Ecuador, 163.
 — *psidii* on pimento in Jamaica, 242.
 — *pumilae-coronata* on *Rhamnus pumila* in Germany, 306.
 — *purpurea* on (?) sorghum in Venezuela, 351.
 — *rubigo-vera*, cytology of, 243.
 — — on grasses, *Darluca filum* parasitizing, in U.S.A., 493.
 — *secalina* on rye in the Argentine, 518; Bermuda, 321.
 — *sesleriae* on *Rhamnus saxatilis* in Germany, 306.
 — *sorghi*, *P. polysora* wrongly referred to, 73.
 — *triticina* on wheat in the Argentine, 187, 518; Brazil, 133; China, 410; England, 35; S. Australia, 124; U.S.A., 481; U.S.S.R., 190; breeding against, 124; control, 35; factors affecting, 481; physiologic races of, 133, 410; varietal reaction to, 124, 133, 187, 190, 518.
 — *vezans*, *P. boutelouae* (?) identical with, 253.
Pucciniastreae of Sweden, 350.
Pullularia on cherry in U.S.A., 532.
 — on pear in N. America, 531.
 — *pullulans* on flax in Australia, 370.
 — — on pine in Canada, 356; synonymy of, 356.
 — — on wood pulp in Sweden, 58, 314.
Pulpassan, use of, against *Phoma* on wood pulp, 315; *Polystictus versicolor* and *Pullularia pullulans* on wood pulp, 314.
Pulpwood, see Wood pulp.
Punica granatum, see Pomegranate.
Pyracantha gibbsii, apple flat limb can infect, 462.
Pyrenophaeta minutula on oak in U.S.A., 272.
Pyrenophora teres, see *Helminthosporium teres*.
Pyrimidin, effect of, on the growth of fungi, 390.
Pyrolene M.P., use of, as a spreader, 361.
Pyrus, *Physalospora cydoniae* on, in U.S.A., 5.
 — *aucuparia*, *Spirosticta inaequalis* on, synonymy of, 225.
 — *communis*, see Pear.
 — *malus*, see Apple.
Pythiaceae, list of, in S. Africa, 46.
Pythiomorpha gonapodyides identical with *Phytophthora megasperma*, 165.
Pythium on beet in U.S.A., 60, 178, 510.
 — on *Cicer arietinum* in the Argentine, 5.
 — on cotton in India, 525; U.S.A., 298.
 — on *Dendrobium* in Mauritius, 126.
 — on ginger in India, 364.
 — on *Hevea* rubber in Dutch E. Indies, 42.
 — on papaw in Hawaii, 150.
 —, *Rozella cuculus* on, 428.
 — *acanthicum*, composition of hyphae of, 344.
 — *anandrum* on rhubarb in U.S.A., 119.
 — *aphanidermatum*, composition of hyphae of, 344.
 — — on papaw in Hawaii, 150.
 — *aristosporum* on barley and wheat in U.S.A., 367.
 — *arrhenomanes*, growth substances in relation to, 91.
 — —, host range of, in N. America, 367.
 — — on maize in (?) Canada, 448; U.S.A., 449.
 — — on sorghum in U.S.A., 523.
 — — on sugar-cane in Hawaii, 350; previously attributed to *P. graminicola*, 350.
 — *de Baryanum*, composition of hyphae of, 344.
 — — on *Atropa belladonna* in U.S.A., 222.
 — — on beet in U.S.A., 178.
 — — on *Begonia* in U.S.A., 526.
 — — on grasses in U.S.A., 367.
 — — on maize in Canada, 448; U.S.A., 72.
 — — on pine in Canada, 508.
 — — on *Ranunculus asiaticus* in U.S.A., 292; hosts of, 292.
 — — on spruce in Canada, 508.
 — *deliense*, growth substances in relation to, 91.
 — *gracile*, *Rozella laevis* on, 428.
 — *graminicola*, growth substances in relation to, 91.
 — — on maize in U.S.A., 72.
 — — on sugar-cane, *P. arrhenomanes* wrongly identified as, 350.
 — *hyphalosticton*, growth substances in relation to, 91.
 — *hypogynum* on barley in U.S.A., 69.
 — *intermedium*, *Rozella cuculus* and *Rozellopsis inflata* on, 428.
 — *irregularare* on *Atropa belladonna* in U.S.A., 222.
 — *mamillatum*, growth substances in relation to, 91.
 — *monospermum*, *Rozella cuculus* and *R. irregularis* on, 428.
 — *myriotylum* on ginger in Ceylon, 66.
 — *oligandrum* on rhubarb in U.S.A., 119.
 — *spinulosum*, composition of hyphae of, 344.
 — *splendens* on *Begonia* in U.S.A., 526.
 — *ultimum*, composition of hyphae of, 344.
 — — on *Atropa belladonna* in U.S.A., 222.
 — — on *Begonia* in U.S.A., 526; hosts of, 526.
 — — on pea in U.S.A., 245.
 — — on rhubarb in U.S.A., 119.
 — — on trees in U.S.A., 105.
 — *vezans*, composition of hyphae of, 344.
 — —, *Rozella irregularis* on, 428.
Quercus, see Oak.
Quince (*Cydonia vulgaris*), *Cytopsora cydoniae* on, in Brazil, 246.
 —, *Stereum purpureum* on, in Portugal, 266.
Quinhydrone, use of, against X disease of peach, 296.
Ramularia on *Atropa belladonna* in U.S.A., 222.
 — on walnut in U.S.A., 311.
 — *beticola* on beet in Canada, 121; U.S.A., 237.
 — *primulae* on *Primula juliae* in England, 141.
 — *variabilis* on *Digitalis purpurea* in New S. Wales, 244.
Ranunculus asiaticus, *Pythium de Baryanum* on, in U.S.A., 292; hosts of, 292.
 — *repens*, *Uromyces dactylidis* f. sp. *repentidactylidis* and *Ustilago poae* f. sp. *repentipratensis* on, in Switzerland, 203.
 — *valdepubens*, *Uromyces dactylidis* f. sp. *bulbosidactylidis* on, in Switzerland, 203.
Raspberry (*Rubus*), *Armillaria mellea* and *Bacterium tumefaciens* on, in New Zealand, 29.

[Raspberry], boron deficiency in, in Canada, 296.

—, *Didymella applanata* on, in Switzerland, 280; U.S.A., 245.

— diseases in U.S.A., 148, 296.

—, dwarf lateral scorch of, in England, 24.

—, *Elsinoe veneta* on, in Chile, 443; New Zealand, 29; U.S.A., 494.

— fern leaf mosaic in Canada, 86.

—, *Leptosphaeria coniothyrium* on, in New Zealand, 28.

—, *Microthyriella rubi* on, in Austria, 226.

— mosaic in England, 25; (?) New Zealand, 29.

—, physiological disease of, and *Stereum purpureum* on, in New Zealand, 29.

Reclamation disease, see Copper deficiency.

Red gram, see Pigeon pea.

Report from the Argentine, 5; the Argentine Congress of Agronomy, 184; Australia, 405; Barbados, 161; Bermuda, 321; Brooklyn, 446; California, 4; Canada, 121; Ceylon, 66, 97; Dutch E. Indies, 323; Empire Cotton Growing Corporation, 414; Gambia, 65; Georgia, 126; Hawaii, 349; Jamaica, 241; Kentucky, 516; Madras, 362; Maine, 321; Malaya, 66; Mauritius, 125; Mississippi, 111; New Delhi, 1, 342; New Zealand, 2, 28; Nyasaland, 4; Peru, 517; the Philippines, 66; Puerto Rico, 408; Queensland, 183; S. India, 47; Spain, 403; Switzerland, 279; Tanganyika, 281; Tennessee, 440; Texas, 127; Trinidad and Tobago, 281; Tucuman, 481; Waite Research Institute, 124; Wisconsin, 441; Zanzibar, 407.

Resin, use of, as a spray supplement, 402.

— fish oil soap, use of, as a spray supplement, 318.

— soda, use of, as an adhesive, 341.

Rhabdocline pseudotsugae on *Abies* in Switzerland, 434.

Rhamnus pumila, *Puccinia pumilae-coronata* on, in Germany, 306.

— *purshiana*, (?) *Puccinia coronata* on, in Canada, 544.

— *saxatilis*, *Puccinia sesleriae* on, in Germany, 306.

Rheum, see Rhubarb.

Rhinosporidium seeberi on man in U.S.A., 417.

Rhizobium leguminosarum on pea, effect of seed dressings on, 511.

Rhizoctonia on beet in U.S.A., 60, 510, 511.

— on *Cicer arietinum* in the Argentine, 5.

— on papaw in Hawaii, 150; U.S.A., 463.

— on pine in U.S.A., 174.

— on strawberry in U.S.A., 463.

— on walnut in U.S.A., 311.

— *solani*, see *Corticium solani*.

(?) — *sylvestris* on spruce in Canadian soil in England, 299.

Rhizophagus on *Cupressus lawsoniana* forming mycorrhiza in Great Britain and N. America, 300.

— on *Molinia coerulea*, forming mycorrhiza, in England, 300.

Rhizopus in relation to asthma and hay fever of man in U.S.A., 16.

— on apple and pear in Switzerland, 457.

— *niger*, thermogenic capability of, 43.

— *nigricans* on bread in U.S.A., 342.

— — on cotton in the Argentine, 417.

— — on crucifer seed in U.S.A., 246.

— — on flax in Australia, 370.

— — on pear in N. America, 531.

— — on strawberry in U.S.A., 463.

Rhododendron, *Pestalopezia rhododendri* on, in U.S.A., 504.

—, *Septoria azaleae* on, in New S. Wales, 122.

— *catawbiense*, *Coryneum rhododendri* var. *fuscoideum* on, in U.S.A., 47.

— *punctatum*, *Gloeosporium ferrugineum* and *Leptothyrium parvulum* on, in U.S.A., 47.

Rhodosticta quercina on oak in U.S.A., 272.

Rhodotorula glutinis and *R. gracilis* on wood pulp in Sweden, 58.

— *mucilaginosus* var. *pararosea* and *R. rosea* on man in Germany, 79.

Rhopographus chorinensis referred to *Leptosphaeria coniothyrium*, 225.

Rhubarb (*Rheum*), diseases of, in Great Britain, 316.

—, *Pythium anandrum*, *P. oligandrum*, and *P. ultimum* on, in U.S.A., 119.

—, virus disease of, in New Zealand, 2.

Rhynchosporium secalis on barley in the Argentine, 246; England, 154.

Ribes, *Cronartium ribicola* on, in U.S.A., 105, 260, 508; eradication against, 105.

— *americanum*, *Cronartium ribicola* on, in U.S.A., 355.

— *cynosbati*, *Cronartium ribicola* on, in U.S.A., 260, 355, 533.

— *fasciculatum chinense*, *Sphaerotheca mors-uvae* on, in England, 24.

— *grossularia*, see Gooseberry.

— *rotundifolium*, *Cronartium ribicola* on, in U.S.A., 355, 533.

Rice (*Oryza sativa*), *Cercospora oryzae* on, in U.S.A., 128; Venezuela, 324.

—, dwarf disease of, in the Philippines, 96; transmission of, by *Nephrotettix bipunctatus*, 97.

—, *Entyloma oryzae* on, in Venezuela, 324.

—, *Ophiobolus miyabeanus* on, in India, 362; U.S.A., 128.

—, — *oryzinus* on, in U.S.A., 128.

—, *Piricularia oryzae* on, in the Argentine, 518; India, 362; Japan, 96, 160; U.S.A., 128, 502; Venezuela, 324; nature of resistance to, 160; varietal reaction to, 362, 502.

— straightthead in U.S.A., 128.

—, *Tilletia horrida* on, in U.S.A., 128.

— white tip in U.S.A., 128.

Richardsonia brasiliensis, banana virus can infect, in Brazil, 88.

Ricinus communis, *Sphaceloma ricini* on, in China, 45.

Rigidoporus surinamensis subauberianus on oak in U.S.A., 504.

Rimocortius kwanzani, *Prunus serrulata* rough bark virus named, 463.

Ring spot diseases, see under hosts.

Robinia pseud-acacia, (?) *Cladosporium epiphyllum* on, in U.S.A., 47.

Rosaceae, mycorrhiza of, in U.S.A., 313.

Rose (*Rosa*), *Chalaropsis thielavioides* on, in U.S.A., 19.

—, *Clitocybe tabescens* on, in U.S.A., 497.

—, *Diplocarpon rosae* on, in U.S.A., 128; Venezuela, 324.

— mosaic in Australia, 371.

—, *Mycosphaerella rosicola*, *Phragmidium mucronatum*, and *Sphaceloma rosarum* on, in Venezuela, 324.

—, *Sphaerotheca pannosa* on, in Portugal, 266; Venezuela, 324; *Oidium leucoconium* imperfect stage of, 266.

— wilt, serology of, 425.

Rosellinia arcuata on *Leucaena glauca* in Sumatra, 324.

[*Rosellinia arcuata*] on tea in India, 48; Sumatra, 324.
 — on *Tephrosia candida* and *T. vogelii* in Sumatra, 324.
 — *bunodes* on arrowroot and grapefruit in W. Indies, 162.
 — on *Hevea* rubber in Dutch E. Indies, 42.
 — on *Hibiscus rosa-sinensis* in W. Indies, 162.
 — on *Leucaena glauca* in Sumatra, 324.
 — on tea in India, 48; Sumatra, 324.
 — *necatris* on lucerne in U.S.A., 23.
 — *paraguayensis* on cacao in W. Indies, 162.
 — *pepo* on cacao and nutmeg in W. Indies, 162.
Rozella, synopsis of, 428.
 —, *Pleolpidium* a synonym of, 351.
 — *barreitii* on *Phytophthora cactorum*, 428.
 — *cuculus* on *Pythium*, *P. intermedium*, and *P. monospermum*, 428.
 — *irregularis* on *Pythium monospermum* and *P. vexans*, 428.
 — *laevis* on *Pythium gracile*, 428.
 — *rhizophlyctis*, a new parasite of Chytridiales, 351.
Rozellopsis, a new genus, 351, 428.
 — *inflata* on *Pythium intermedium*, 428.
 — *waterhousei* on *Phytophthora cryptogaea*, 428.
 — on *Phytophthora megasperma*, 428.
Rubber (*Hevea brasiliensis*), *Botryodiplodia theobromae* on, in Dutch E. Indies, 42; Sumatra, 323.
 —, *Ceratostomella fimbriata* on, in Sumatra, 323.
 —, *Corticium salmonicolor* on, in Malaya, 391.
 —, *Diplodia* on, in Ceylon, 97.
 —, *Fomes lignosus* on, in Ceylon, 97; Malaya, 390; Sumatra, 323.
 —, *Oidium heveae* on, in Ceylon, 97; Dutch E. Indies, 220; Malaya, 391.
 —, *Phytophthora* on, in Dutch E. Indies, 42; Sumatra, 323.
 —, *Pythium* and *Rosellinia bunodes* on, in Dutch E. Indies, 42.
 — sun scorch in Malaya, 391.
 —, *Ustulina zonata* on, in Dutch E. Indies, 42.
 —, vulcanized, toxicity of, to *Erysiphe polygoni*, 262.
Rubus, *Phragmidium violaceum* on, in Portugal, 266.
 —, see also Blackberry, Dewberry, Raspberry.
 — *canadensis*, *Gloeosporium papulatum* on, in U.S.A., 47.
 — *idaeus*, see Raspberry.
 — *lasiocarpus*, *Phragmotelium formosanum* on, in India, 463; *Phragmidium formosanum* renamed, 463.
 —, — *myorense* on, in India, 463.
 —, — *okianum* on, in India, 463; *Phragmidium okianum* renamed, 463.
 —, — *rubi-fraxinifolii* on, in India, 463; *Phragmidium rubi-fraxinifolii* renamed, 463.
 — *occidentalis*, see Raspberry.
Rudbeckia hirta, potato yellow dwarf affecting, in U.S.A., 264.
Rumex crispus and *R. obtusifolius*, potato yellow dwarf can infect, 264.
Rusts, see Uredinales.
Rutabaga, see Swede.
Rutstroemia, monograph on, 99.
Rye (*Secale cereale*), *Claviceps purpurea* on, 70; in Britain, 135; New Zealand, 2; New S. Wales, 135; Spain, 403; culture of, 70, 135.
 —, copper deficiency in, 10.
 —, *Erysiphe graminis* on, in Spain, 404.
 —, *Helminthosporium sativum* on, in Canada, 366.
 —, *Puccinia secalina* on, in the Argentine, 518; Bermuda, 321.
 —, *Scleocotrichum graminis* on, in Spain, 404.
 —, — var. *brachypoda* on, in Uruguay, 129.
 —, *Urocystis occulta* on, in U.S.A., 293; hosts of, 293.
 —, wheat mosaic winter affecting, in U.S.S.R., 251; diagnosis of, 251.
Saccharomyces on man in Germany, 79.
Saccharum, *Cintractia pulverulenta* on, in India, 305; *Ustilago pulverulenta* renamed, 305.
 —, *Ustilago pulverulenta* on, in India, 305; renamed *Cintractia pulverulenta*, and *U. coursetii* wrongly identified as, 305.
 — *arundinaceum*, *Puccinia kuehnii* on, *Darluca filum* parasitizing, in India, 472.
 — *munja*, *Sorosporium indicum* on, in India, 305.
 — *officinarum*, see Sugar-cane.
 — *spontaneum*, *Puccinia kuehnii* on, in S. Africa, 47.
Sacodium viticolum synonym of *Phyllostictina viticola*, 225.
Safflower (*Carthamus tinctorius*), *Cercospora carthami* on, in the Philippines, 47.
 —, *Puccinia carthami* on, in Rumania, 405.
Salicaceae, mycorrhiza of, in U.S.A., 313.
Salicylanilide, use of, against *Chaetomium globosum* on textiles, 152.
Salix, *Fuscidium saliciperdum* on, in Canada, 172, 544.
 —, *Physalospora miyabeana* on, in Canada, 172, 544; U.S.A., 355.
Salsify (*Tragopogon porrifolius*), diseases of, in England, 112.
 —, *Stemphylium botryosum* var. *tragopogonis* on, in U.S.A., 361.
Salutation in *Aspergillus niger*, 468; *Colletotrichum salcatum*, 162. (See also Variation.)
Samanea, *Aphanopeltis aequatoriensis* on, in Ecuador, 163.
Sandalwood (*Santalum album*) spike in India, 464.
Sandovit (Van Gorkom), liquid, use of, as a spreader, 341.
Santalum album, see Sandalwood.
Santobrite, use of, against *Pullularia pullulans* on wood pulp, 314; as a timber preservative, 177.
Santomerse, use of, as a spreader, 111.
Saperda tridentata, technique for artificially feeding, 273.
Sapindus rarak fruits, use of, as a spreader, 341.
Saprolegnia parasitica on fish in Portugal, 243.
Scale insects, *Septobasidium caveniae* and *S. guaranicum* on, in the Argentine, 14.
Schizanthus, *Pythium de Baryanum* can infect, 292.
Schizophyllum commune on apple in New Zealand, 144.
 — on *Shorea robusta* in India, 399.
 — on sugar-cane in India, 472.
 — on timber, biochemistry of, 508.
Scilla, *Penicillium cyclopium* on, in England and Holland, 141.
Scirtothrips dorsalis in relation to chilli leaf curl, 342.
Scleroderma aurantium on pine and spruce forming mycorrhiza in Sweden, 389.
Scleropora rigida, 'benda' disease of, in U.S.A., 493.
Sclerospora macrospora on oats and wheat in U.S.A., 8.
 — *nobleti* on *Andropogon australis* in New S. Wales, 336.

[*Sclerospora*] *sacchari* on *Erianthus arundinaceum* and maize, 347; in Queensland, 304.
 — on sugar-cane in Queensland, 304, 347, 503; hosts of, 347.

Sclerotinia fructicola on apple in U.S.A., 209, 337.
 — on apricot in New S. Wales, 123; U.S.A., 27.
 — on cherry in New S. Wales, 244; U.S.A., 27, 532.
 — on nectarine in New S. Wales, 280.
 — on peach, 464; New S. Wales, 280; U.S.A., 27, 531; control, 280, 464.
 — on pear, 464; in N. America, 531.
 — on plum in U.S.A., 27, 146.
 — on stone fruits, 384.
 —, toxicity of copper sulphate to, 422; copper xanthates to, 498; sulphur to, 422.

— *fructigena* on apple in Germany, 27, 460; Spain, 338.
 — on apricot in England, 461; Germany, 460.
 — on cherry, 27.
 — on pear in Germany, 460.
 — on plum in England, 213; viability of conidia of, 27.

— *homoeocarpa* on *Agrostis stolonifera* in U.S.A., 493.

— on turf, 383.

(?) — *kerneri* on *Abies balsamea* in Newfoundland, 355.

— *laxa* on almond in U.S.A., 420.
 — on apple, 27; in Germany, 460.
 — on apricot in England, 461; Germany, 460; U.S.A., 27, 420; varietal reaction to, 460.
 — on cherry, 27; in Germany, 460; U.S.A., 27.
 — on peach in U.S.A., 27.
 — on pear in England, 24; Germany, 460.
 — on plum, 27; in England, 213; U.S.A., 27.
 — on stone fruit, 384; in U.S.A., 420.

— *minor* on endive in Switzerland, 280.

— *sclerotiorum* in Scotland, 439.

— on *Anemone* in Bermuda, 321.
 — on celery in Canada, 468.
 — on citrus in New S. Wales, 440.
 — on endive in Switzerland, 280.
 — on lettuce in New S. Wales, 440.
 — on lupin in U.S.A., 293.
 — on passion fruit in New S. Wales, 440.
 — on potato in Chile, 470.
 — on sunflower in Rumania, 405.
 — on swede in Bermuda, 321.

— *trifoliorum* on clover in U.S.A., 527.

Sclerotium cepivorum on onion in England, 213.

— *rolfsii* on beans in Venezuela, 360.
 — on beet in U.S.A., 138, 358, 399.
 — on *Carduus benedictus* in U.S.A., 221.
 — on chilli in U.S.A., 126.
 — on clover in U.S.A., 527.
 — on cotton in India, 525; U.S.A., 138.
 — on *Delphinium* in U.S.A., 138.
 — on groundnut in Jamaica, 242; (?) the Philippines, 66; U.S.A., 361.
 — on orchids in Puerto Rico, 202.
 —, toxicity of chemicals to, 127.

— *tuliparum* on *Iris* in Canada, 122.

Scolecotrichum graminis on *Dactylis glomerata* in Uruguay, 129.
 — on rye in Spain, 404.

— var. *brachypoda* on *Bromus unioloides* and rye in Uruguay, 129.

— *musae* on banana in Venezuela, 324.

Scolopendrium officinale, *Milesina scolopendrii* on, wrongly identified as *Gloeosporium nicolai*, 455.

Scolytus, technique for artificially feeding, 273.
 — *multistriatus* in relation to *Ceratostomella ulmi* on elm, 104, 106, 433.
 — *sulcatus* in relation to *Ceratostomella ulmi* on elm, 475.

Scorzonera diseases in England, 112.

Sea-kale (*Crambe maritima*) diseases in Great Britain, 316.

SEC oil, use of, as a spreader, 341.

Secale cereale, see Rye.

Seed-borne diseases, 514.
 — disinfection, injury to cereals caused by, 131.

Selenophoma bromigena on *Bromus inermis* in Canada and U.S.A., 144.

Semesan, effect of, on nodule formation in peas, 511.
 —, use of, against damping-off of pine, 174; as a pea seed disinfectant, 245.
 — bel, use of, against *Fusarium bulbigenum* var. *batatas* and *F. oxysporum* f. 2, 360; *Monilochætes infuscans* on sweet potato, 515.
 — jr., use of, against *Alternaria solani* on tomato, 126.
 —, new improved, use of, against maize seedling diseases, 327; as a seed dressing for *Phaseolus lunatus*, 511.

Septobasidium spp., list of, in the Argentine, 14.
 — *bogoriense* on *Coccus viride* and *Ischnaspis longirostris* in the Dutch E. Indies, 137.
 — *cavariae* and *S. guaraniticum* on scale insects in the Argentine, 14.

Septogloeum atrix synonym of *S. oxysporum*, 204.
 — *oxysporum* on *Arrhenatherum avenaceum* in N. America, 204; geographical distribution, host range, and synonymy of, 204.

Septoria on orange in S. Australia, 124.
 — *apii* on celery in England, 35; Switzerland, 497.
 — *apii-graveolentis* on celery, structure and germination of spores of, 427.
 — *azaleae* on *Rhododendron* in New S. Wales, 122.
 — *betae* on beet in Canada, 121.
 — *caraganae* on *Caragana arborescens* in Rumania, 405.
 — *citri* on citrus in Venezuela, 324.
 — (?) — on grapefruit and orange in U.S.A., 73.
 — *dianthi* on carnation in Venezuela, 324.
 — *drummondii* on *Phlox* in Ceylon, 19.
 — *gladioli* on *Gladiolus* in Uruguay, 130.
 — *graminum* on wheat in Iran, 99.
 — *helenii* on *Helenium* in England, 141.
 — *lactucae* on lettuce in Ceylon, 182; China, 45.
 — *lycopersici* on tomato in the Argentine, 5; U.S.A., 230, 245.
 — *musiva* on poplar in Canada, 544.
 — *nodorum* on wheat in the Argentine, 187; Germany, 306.
 — *pisi* on pea in U.S.A., 127, 238.
 — *populi* on poplar in Iran, 99.
 — *tritici* on wheat in the Argentine, 187.
 — *viticola* synonym of *Phyllostictina viticola*, 225.

Sequoia sempervirens, *Mycosphaerella sequoiae* on, in U.S.A., 394.

Serological studies on the Erwinaeae, 325; potato viruses, 500; viruses, 425.

Serratia marcescens, taxonomy of, 282.

Sesame (*Sesamum orientale*), *Cercospora sesami* on, in U.S.A., 44; Venezuela, 351, 427.

Sesbania macrocarpa, bean yellow necrosis virus affecting, 388; transmission of, to soy-bean and pea, 388.

Setaria italica, *Ophiobolus miyabeanus* on, in India, 362.
 — — — *setariae* on, in U.S.A., 252.
 — — — *Piricularia* can infect, 363.
 — — — *Pythium arrhenomanes* on, in U.S.A., 367.
 — — — *Ustilago crameri* on, in Canada, 121; U.S.A., 20.
 — *lutescens*, *Cercospora setariicola* and *Piricularia grisea* on, in U.S.A., 493.
 — — — *Ustilago neglecta* on, in U.S.A., 20; cultural study on, 20.
 — *viridis*, *Phyllosticta sorghina* on, in U.S.A., 204; synonymy of, 204.
 — — — *Pythium arrhenomanes* on, in U.S.A., 367.
 Shellac, use of, as a wound dressing, 276.
Shepherdia argentea, *Fomes fraxinophilus* on, in U.S.A., 397.
 Shirlan, use of, as a textile preservative, 261.
 — AG, use of, against black end and squirter of banana, 31; citrus moulds, 369; *Cladosporium fulvum*, 3.
 — flakes, use of, against black end and squirter of banana, 31.
 — WS, use of, against black end and squirter of banana, 31; *Penicillium digitatum* on citrus, 3.
Shorea robusta, *Fomes lignosus*, *Polystictus sanguineus*, *Schizophyllum commune*, and *Stereum hirsutum* on, in India, 399.
 Silicic acid in relation to resistance to Erysiphaceae, 266.
 Silkworms (*Bombyx*), *Beauveria bassiana*, *B. densa*, *B. globulifera*, *Metarrhizium anisopliae*, *Spicaria fumoso-rosea*, and *Sporotrichum paraneone* on, in Italy, 289.
 Silver, fungicidal action of, 150.
Sirex cyaneus and *S. gigas*, *Stereum sanguinolentum* in symbiosis with, 525.
Sisymbrium altissimum, potato yellow dwarf can infect, 264.
 Smuts, see *Ustilaginales*.
 Soapstone, use of, as a filler, 311.
 Socony product 2295a, use of, against *Ceratostomella fimbriata* on *Hevea* rubber, 323.
 Sodium acid sulphite, use of, against grape moulds, 320.
 — arsenate, use of, as a timber preservative, 107.
 — arsenite, use of, against *Fomes lignosus* on *Hevea* rubber, 39; *Sclerotinia laxa* on stone fruit, 420.
 — azide, bacteriostatic action of, 365.
 — benzoate, toxicity of, to butter moulds, 334.
 — bisulphite, use of, against grape moulds, 407.
 — chlorate, use of, against sooty blotch and fly speck of apple, 145.
 — chromate a constituent of thanalith, 358; Wolman salts, 358.
 — — — use of, as a timber preservative, 107.
 — diacetate, use of, against moulds in bread, 342.
 — dichromate a constituent of triolith, 109.
 — — — use of, against *Ceratostomella pilifera* on timber, 436.
 — dimethyl dithiocarbamate, use of, against dermatomycoses, 384; *Ustilago hordei*, 383.
 — dinitrophenolate, use of, against *Ceratostomella pilifera* on timber, 436.
 — fluoride a constituent of thanalith, 358; triolith, 109; Wolman salts, 358.
 — — — use of, as a timber preservative, 315, 476.
 — — — hyposulphite, use of, against *Byssochlamys fulva*, 203.
 — — — lye, use of, against flax moulds, 453.
 — — — nitrate, toxicity of, to *Fusarium oxysporum* var. *cubense*, 340.
 [Sodium] orthophenylphenolate, see Tebecit.
 — pentachlorophenate, see Santobrite.
 — pentachlorophenolate, use of, against *Chaetomium globosum* on textiles, 152.
 — propionate, use of, against moulds in bread, 342; cream, 80.
 — silicofluoride, use of, as a timber preservative, 476.
 — sulphite, use of, against *Byssochlamys fulva*, 203.
 — tetraborate, effect of, on *Phoma betae*, 178.
 — thiosulphate, use of, against *Byssochlamys fulva*, 206; *Podosphaera leucotricha*, 459; X disease of peach, 296.
 Soil disinfection against *Corynebacterium michiganense*, 354; *Pythium* on belladonna, 222; *Pythium* and *Rhizoctonia* on papaw, 150; *Sclerotinia minor* and *S. sclerotiorum* on endive, 280; *Verticillium albo-atrum* on tomato, 3.
 — fungi in relation to erosion, 221.
 — microflora in relation to plant diseases, 502.
 — protozoa, bacterial food of, 283.
 — sterilization by heat against *Pythium* and *Rhizoctonia* on papaw, 150.
 — — by steam, 97, 364; against *Corticium solani* on *Cinchona*, 303; late black root of beet, 178; *Pythium* on *Begonia*, 526; *Sclerotinia* on endive, 280.
Soya, see *Soy-bean*.
Solanum spp., *Bacterium solanacearum* on, resistance to, 102–103.
 — *melongena*, see *Eggplant*.
 — *nigrum*, leaf roll of, in Germany, 230.
 — *torvum*, *Cercospora* on, in Java, 103.
 — *tuberosum*, see *Potato*.
 Solar treatment against *Ustilago tritici*, 69.
Solidago canadensis, beet savoy disease affecting, in Canada, 399; transmission of, by *Piesma cinerea*, 399.
 Soltosan, use of, against *Phytophthora infestans* 470.
Sorghastrum nutans, *Pythium arrhenomanes* on in U.S.A., 367.
 Sorghum (*Sorghum vulgare*), *Gibberella fujikuroi* on, in India, 161.
 (?) —, *Puccinia purpurea* on, in Venezuela, 351
 — — — *Pythium arrhenomanes* on, in U.S.A., 367, 523
 — rot in U.S.A., etiology of, 523.
 — — — *Sorosporium reilianum* on, in New S. Wales 122.
 — — — *Sphacelia sorghi* on, in India, 485; host range of, 485.
 — — — *Sphacelotheca cruenta* on, in U.S.A., 205.
 — — — *sorghi* on, 71; in New S. Wales, 122; U.S.A., 10, 205, 485; control, 10, 71, 122, 485.
 — — — *Titaeospora andropogonis* on, in U.S.A., 286.
Sorghum halepense, *Sclerospora sacchari* can infect, 347.
 — — — and *S. saccharatum*, *Titaeospora andropogonis* on, in U.S.A., 286.
 — — — *sudanense*, see *Sudan grass*.
 — — — *vulgare*, see *Sorghum*.
 — — — var. *saccharatum*, *Phoma terrestris* can infect, 118.
Sorosporella uvella on wireworms in England, 451; *Syngliocladium cleoni* imperfect stage of, 451.
Sorosporium everhartii on *Andropogon furcatus* in U.S.A., 205.
 — *indicum* on *Saccharum munja* in India, 305.
 — *reilianum* on maize in U.S.A., 205.
 — — — on sorghum in New S. Wales, 122.
 — — — *syntheriaeae* on *Cenchrus* in U.S.A., 205.

Soy-bean (*Glycine max*), bean yellow necrosis can infect, 388.

—, *Corticium solani* on, in U.S.A., 515.

—, *Peronospora manshurica* on, in U.S.A., 361.

—, *Phoma terrestris* can infect, 118.

Spelt (*Triticum spelta*), see Wheat.

Spergong, composition of, 298.

—, effect of, on nodule formation in peas, 511.

—, use of, against *Corticium solani* on soy-bean and vetch, 515; damping-off of cotton, 298; *Fusarium bulbigenum* var. *batatas* and *F. oxyporum* f. 2, 360; *Sphacelotheca sorghi*, 485; as a seed dressing for peas, 245, 298; for *Phaseolus lunatus*, 511.

—, wettable, use of, against *Monilochaetes infuscans* on sweet potato, 515.

Sphacelia sorghi on sorghum in India, 485; host range of, 485.

Sphaceloma, revised description of, 225.

— on *Euphorbia pulcherrima* in Hawaii, 371; (?) U.S.A., 142.

— *arachidis* on groundnut in Brazil, 239.

— *poinsettiae* on *Euphorbia pulcherrima* var. *plenissima* in U.S.A., 455.

— *ricini* on *Ricinus communis* in China, 45.

— *rosarum* on rose in Venezuela, 324.

Sphacelotheca cruenta on sorghum in U.S.A., 205.

— *erianthi* on *Erianthus* in India, 305; *Ustilago erianthi* renamed, 305.

— *panici-miliacei* on *Panicum miliaceum* in U.S.A., 20.

— *sorghi* on sorghum, 71; New S. Wales, 122; U.S.A., 10, 205, 485; control, 10, 71, 122, 485.

Sphaerella inaequalis synonym of *Spilosticta inaequalis*, 225.

— *linorum* on flax in the Argentine, 246; New Zealand, 3; Peru, 352; U.S.A., 5, 418; legislation against, in Peru, 352.

Sphaeropsis ellisi synonym of *Diplodia pinea*, 398.

— *quercinum* on oak in U.S.A., 272.

Sphaerotheca humuli on hops in U.S.A., 246.

— *mors-uvae* on gooseberry in U.S.A., 245.

— on *Ribes fasciculatum chinense* in England, 24.

— *pannosa* on rose in Portugal, 266; Venezuela, 324; *Oidium leucoconium* imperfect stage of, 266.

— var. *rosae*, toxicity of sulphur to, 422.

Spicaria coccospora on nematodes in U.S.A., 15.

— *fumoso-rosea* on silkworms in Italy, 289.

— *prasina* on caterpillar in England, 452.

Spilosticta, *Endostigmone* synonym of, 225.

— *inaequalis* on *Pyrus aucuparia*, synonymy of, 225.

Spinach (*Spinacia oleracea*), *Cystopus occidentalis* on, in U.S.A., 128.

—, pea mottle can infect, 293.

—, *Peronospora effusa* on, in U.S.A., 63.

—, *Phoma terrestris* can infect, 118.

Spinulosis, 344.

Spirochaeta cytophaga on cotton, textile, 288.

Spondylocladium atrovirens on potato in Chile, 470; U.S.A., 301.

Sponge (*Hippiospongia*), unidentified fungus on, in British Honduras, 77.

Spongospora subterranea on potato in Chile, 470; legislation against, in Uruguay, 240.

Sporein, use of, against vine pests.

Sporobolus berteroanus, *Helminthosporium ravenelii* on, in Uruguay, 129; geographical distribution of, 129.

— *indicus*, *Epichloe cinerea* on, in New S. Wales, 244.

Sporocybe azaleae synonym of *Briosia azaleae*, 47.

Sporotrichum on litho damping rollers, 424.

— *beurmanni* on man, 15.

— *malorum* on pear in N. America, 531.

— *paranense* on silkworms in Italy, 289.

— *schenckii* on man, 15; U.S.A., 16.

Spray injury, 212, 244, 375, 377, 378, 402, 420, 421, 441.

— plants, stationary, in Victoria, 297.

— programmes for fruit in England, 457.

Sprycrop, use of, against *Mycosphaerella fragariae*, 533.

Spraying apparatus, 33, 88, 183.

Sprays, wetting power in relation to retention of, 212.

Spruce (*Picea*), *Armillaria mellea* on, in Canada, 57.

—, (?) *Boletus bovinus* on, forming mycorrhiza in Swedish soil in England, 299.

—, *Corticium solani* on, in Canada, 508.

—, *Diedickea piceae* on, in U.S.A., 394.

—, *Fomes annosus* on, in England, 234.

—, *pini* and *F. pinicola* on, in Canada, 57.

—, *Fusarium* on, in Canada, 508.

—, *Macrophomina phaseli* on, in U.S.A., 275; host range of, 275.

—, *Mycelium radicis atrovirens* on, forming mycorrhiza in Swedish soil in England, 300.

—, — *nigro-strigosum* on, forming mycorrhiza in Canadian soil in England, 299.

—, *Phacidium infestans* on, in Canada, 508.

—, *Polyporus circinatus* on, in Canada, 57.

—, — *schweinitzii* on, in England, 234.

—, *Poria subacida* on, in Canada, 57.

—, *Pythium de Baryanum* on, in Canada, 508.

—, (?) *Rhizoctonia sylvestris* on, in Canadian soil in England, 299.

—, *Scleroderma aurantium* on, forming mycorrhiza in Sweden, 389.

—, *Stereum sanguinolentum* on, in Canada, 57.

—, *Trametes serialis* on, in Canada and U.S.A., 397.

—, *Tricholoma pessundatum* on, forming mycorrhiza in Sweden, 389.

Squash (*Cucurbita*), *Cercospora cucurbitae* on, in the Philippines, 47.

—, *Fusarium bulbigenum* var. *niveum* on, in U.S.A., 442.

—, *Phoma terrestris* and *Phytophthora capsici* can infect, 118.

—, see also Vegetable marrow.

SS-3, use of, as a spreader, 341.

Stachybotrys on flax in Australia, 370.

Stachylidium theobromae on banana in Venezuela, 324.

Stachys arvensis, a banana virus affecting, in Brazil, 88.

Stagonospora bromi on *Bromus* in U.S.A., 493.

— *curtisii* on *Hippeastrum* in U.S.A., 18.

— *meliloti* on clover in U.S.A., 527.

— on lucerne and *Melilotus* in U.S.A., 22.

Staphylococcus albus and *S. aureus*, toxicity of gliocladin to, 216.

Stellaria media, pea mottle can infect, 293.

Stemphylium on cherry in U.S.A., 532.

— on *Echinochloa crus-galli* in U.S.A., 21; *Anacanthinus deplanatus* in relation to, 21.

— and *S. No. 2* on pear in N. America, 531.

— *botryosum*, see *Pleospora herbarum*.

— var. *tragopogonis* on salsify in U.S.A., 361.

— *sarciniforme* on red clover in U.S.A., 22.

— on tomato in Spain, 404.

—, use of, as a test fungus, 150, 423, 424.

Stereum frustulosum and *S. gausapatum* on oak in U.S.A., 396.

— *hirsutum* on *Shorea robusta* in India, 399.

[*Stereum*] *purpureum* on apple in England, 24; New Zealand, 144.

— on currants and gooseberry in New Zealand, 29.

— on plum, 459.

— on quince in Portugal, 266.

— on raspberry in New Zealand, 29

— on timber, 311.

— *sanguinolentum* in symbiosis with *Sirex cyaneus* and *S. gigas*, 525.

— on spruce in Canada, 57.

Stipa comata, *Pythium arrhenomanes* on, in U.S.A., 367.

Stock, see *Matthiola incana*.

Storage disorders of apple, 3, 82, 129, 144, 209, 295, 374, 406, 457, 459, 495, 530; carrot, 360; cherry, 532; citrus, 331; ginger, 364; orange, 369; peach, 85; pear, 338, 372, 457; potato, 219, 301, 302; vegetables, 316.

Strawberry (*Fragaria vesca*), *Botrytis* on, in U.S.A., 463.

—, *Corynebacterium fascians* on, in England, 282.

— crinkle in England, 30, 379, 380; New Zealand, 3, 28; U.S.A., 340, 463; Wales, 86; transmission of, by *Capitophorus potentillae*, 3; *C. tetrarhodus*, 86; serology of, 425; types of, 3.

—, *Dendrophoma obscurans* and *Diplocarpon earlianum* on, in U.S.A., 463.

— diseases in U.S.A., 463.

—, June yellows of, in U.S.A., 463.

—, leaf roll of, in Canada and U.S.A., 533.

—, *Mycosphaerella fragariae* on, in England, 86; New Zealand, 28; U.S.A., 463, 533; control, 28, 533.

—, *Pezizella lythri* on, in U.S.A., 463.

—, *Phyllosticta grandimaculans* on, in England, 86.

—, *Phytophthora cactorum* on, in U.S.A., 463.

—, — *fragariae* on, in U.S.A., 86, 340, 341, 421, 463, 496; breeding against, 421; control, 86; factors affecting, 341; varietal reaction to, 86, 496.

—, *Rhizoctonia* and *Rhizopus nigricans* on, in U.S.A., 463.

— root rot in New Zealand, 28.

— 'stunt' in U.S.A., 30; nomenclature of, 30.

—, *Verticillium albo-atrum* on, in U.S.A., 340.

— yellow edge in England, 30, 379, 380; New Zealand, 3, 28; Sweden, 30; U.S.A., 340, 463, 496; transmission of, by *Capitophorus fragariae*, 379; *C. potentillae*, 3; varietal reaction to, 28, 340, 379, 381; wild strawberry a test plant for, 380.

Streptococcus on *Cactoblastis cactorum*, 34.

— *viridans*, toxicity of gliocladin to, 216.

Streptothricin, 248.

Strigoderma arboricola and *Strigodermella pygmaea*, *Bacillus popilliae* can infect, 78.

Stylopage cephalote on amoebae, 488.

Sudan grass (*Sorghum sudanense*), copper deficiency in, in Western Australia, 68.

—, —, *Pythium arrhenomanes* on, in U.S.A., 367.

—, —, *Sclerospora sacchari* can infect, 347.

—, —, *Titaeospora andropogonis* on, in U.S.A., 286.

Sugar beet, see Beet.

Sugar cane (*Saccharum officinarum*), *Bacterium albilineans* on, in Hawaii, 349; Mauritius, 98; Queensland, 304.

—, *Cercospora longipes* on, in Cuba, 99; Venezuela, 324.

—, chlorotic streak in Hawaii, 350; Queensland, 305; U.S.A., 266, 348; control, 305, 348, 350; transmission of, by *Draeculacephala portola*, 266; varietal reaction to, 348, 350.

[Sugar-cane], *Cochliobolus stenospilus* on, in Cuba, 99; Hawaii, 349.

—, *Colletotrichum falcatum* on, in India, 162, 347, 363, 472; Mauritius, 98, 126; S. Africa, 222; U.S.A., 303, 349; antagonism of *Trichoderma viride* to, 162; control, 222, 349; culture of, 162, 303; physiology of, 162; salutation in, 162; varietal reaction to, 347, 363, 472.

—, diseases of, methods of control, 44.

— Fiji disease in the Philippines, 535; Queensland, 305, 503; legislation against, in Queensland, 503; transmission of, by *Perkinsiella saccharicida*, 503.

—, *Gibberella fujikuroi* on, in Cuba, 99; Hawaii, 350; India, 161.

—, *Helminthosporium* on, in Cuba, 99.

—, — *sacchari* on, in Cuba, 98; Hawaii, 349, (?) 350.

—, *Himantia stellifera* on, in Brazil, 246.

— leaf scald in Hawaii, 350.

—, *Leptosphaeria sacchari* on, in Cuba, 98; Venezuela, 324.

—, *Ligniera vasculorum* on, in Puerto Rico and Venezuela, 351.

— mosaic in the Argentine, 503; Barbados, 161; Cuba, 98; Hawaii, 350; India, 363; the Philippines, 535; Queensland, 305; U.S.A., 44; control, 98; transmission of, by *Aphis maidis*, 305; varietal reaction to, 44, 98, 350, 363, 503.

—, *Neurospora sitophila* on, in Hawaii, 350.

—, *Ophiobolus miyabeanus* on, in India, 362.

—, — *stenosporus* on, in Venezuela, 324.

—, *Pleocysta sacchari* on, in Cuba, 99.

—, *Pseudomonas rubrilineans* on, in Cuba, 99.

—, *Pythium arrhenomanes* on, in Hawaii, 350; previously attributed to *P. graminicola*, 350.

— root disease in Cuba, 99.

—, *Schizophyllum commune* on, in India, 472.

—, *Sclerospora sacchari* on, in Queensland, 304, 347, 503; hosts of, 347.

— twisted top in Cuba, 99.

—, *Ustilago scitaminea* on, in the Argentine, (?) 5, 98, 481.

—, *Xanthomonas vasculorum* on, in Mauritius, 98; Queensland, 303.

Sulphadiazine, use of, against *Actinomyces hominis*, 200.

Sulphanilamide and sulphathiazole, use of, against *Actinomyces hominis*, 200.

Sulphite liquors, utilization of, by *Endoconidio-phora adiposa*, 277.

— lye, use of, as a timber preservative, 476.

— wrappers, use of, against citrus moulds, 369.

Sulphur deficiency in *Ailanthus altissima*, 53; beet in U.S.A., in relation to *Ramularia beticola*, 237; cantaloupe in U.S.A., 438; *Catalpa speciosa* and elm, 53.

—, effect of, on wheat seed storage, 444.

—, — soil applications of, on manganese deficiency in oats, 194; *Phymatotrichum omnivorum*, 127; pine chlorosis, 184.

—, fungicidal action of, 422, 497.

—, retention of, in spray deposits, 294.

—, toxicity of, to *Sphaerotheca pannosa* var. *rosae*, *Sclerotinia fructicola*, and *Venturia inaequalis*, 422.

—, use of, against beet heart rot, 400; *Cercospora arachidicola* and *C. personata*, 126, 402; *Cocomyces hiemalis*, 89; *Diplocarpon rosae*, 128; *Erysiphe*, 382; *E. graminis* on rye, 404; *Ganoderma lucidum* on areca palm and coco-

nut, 252; groundnut leaf spots, 65; *Ieariopsis fuckelii* on vine, 279; *Oidium caricae*, 150; (?) *O. mangiferae*, 31; *Sphaerotheca humuli*, 246; *Taphrina deformans*, 89; *Uromyces appendiculatus*, 244; *Venturia inaequalis*, 89; as a cotton seed treatment, 525.

[Sulphur], cirrus, use of, against *Oidium heveae*, 220.

—, colloidal, see Colloidal sulphur.

—, dioxide damage to plants in England, 140.

—, use of, against *Byssochlamys fulva*, 206; grape moulds, 319.

—, flotation, effect of, on photosynthesis in apple, 530.

—, use of, against *Cocomyces hiemalis*, 245; *Venturia inaequalis*, 244, 294, 321, 377.

—, magnetic, use of, against *Venturia inaequalis*, 294.

—, '70, use of, against *Cocomyces hiemalis*, 245; *Venturia inaequalis*, 244, 294.

—, micro-, use of, against *Xanthomonas juglandis*, 311.

—, micronized, use of, against *Venturia inaequalis*, 244, 321.

—, mild, use of, against *Venturia inaequalis*, 378.

—, sludge, use of, against *Oidium heveae*, 220.

—, wettable, use of, against *Puccinia pruni-spinosae* on plum, 244; *Venturia inaequalis*, 244, 294.

Sulphuric acid, use of, as a cotton seed treatment, 414, 525.

Sunflower (*Helianthus annuus*), as an indicator plant for boron deficiency, 310.

—, *Bacterium tumefaciens* on, galls produced by bacteria-free tissue, 6.

—, boron deficiency in, 310; in U.S.A., 536.

—, *Cercospora pachypus* on, in the Philippines, 47.

—, *Diplodia macrospora* on, in Jamaica, 242.

—, *Puccinia helianthi* on, in Jamaica, 242; Rumania, 405.

—, *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum* on, in Rumania, 405.

—, tobacco broad ring spot virus on, in U.S.A., 540.

—, zinc deficiency in, in U.S.A., 536.

Swede (*Brassica napobrassica*), boron deficiency in, in U.S.A., 113, 426.

—, copper and manganese deficiency in, in Western Australia, 92.

—, *Phoma lingam* on, in Canada, 468; New S. Wales, 123.

—, *Plasmoidiophora brassicae* on, in England, 317; Norway, 478.

—, *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum* on, in Bermuda, 321.

—, zinc deficiency in, in Western Australia, 92.

Sweet clover, see *Melilotus*.

Sweet pea (*Lathyrus odoratus*), *Cercospora lathyri* on, in U.S.A., 180.

—, pea mottle can infect, 293.

Sweet potato (*Ipomea batatas*), *Ceratostomella fimbriata* on, in U.S.A., 515.

—, *Fusarium bulbigenum* var. *batatas* and *F. oxysporum* f. 2 on, in U.S.A., 360.

—, *Monilochaetes infuscans* on, in U.S.A., 515.

Synchytrium endobioticum on potato in Sweden, 157; legislation against, in Germany, 320; Uruguay, 240; varietal reaction to, 157.

Syngliocladium cleoni imperfect stage of *Sorosporella uvelia*, 451; synonymy of, 451.

Tabak spreader B.P.M., 341.

Tagetes patula, *Bacterium tumefaciens* on, 247.

Tannins inducing symptoms simulating those of viruses, 466.

Taphrina, errata in papers on, 267.

—, *coeruleascens* on oak in U.S.A., 232, 271; *T. kruehii* distinct from, 271; *T. rubrobrunnea* synonym of, 271.

—, *deformans* on almond and nectarine in Kenya, 147.

—, on peach in Kenya, 147; U.S.A., 84, 89, 338; ascus production cycle in, 84; control, 89.

—, *kruehii* distinct from *T. coeruleascens*, 271.

—, *rubrobrunnea* synonym of *T. coeruleascens*, 271.

Tar, use of, as a wound dressing, 195.

—, oil spray, use of, against *Sclerotinia laxa* on apricot, 461.

—, shale, use of, as a timber preservative, 477.

—, see also Coal tar.

Tarichium reticulata referred to *Myrophagus ucrainicus*, 15.

Tartar emetic, use of, against tomato spotted wilt, 309.

Tea (*Camellia sinensis*), *Botryodiplodia theobromae* on, in Sumatra, 324.

—, *Cephaelous mycoidea* on, in India, 391; taxonomy of, 392.

—, *Corticium invisum* on, in India, 48.

—, *Fomes noxius* on, in Sumatra, 324.

—, *Guignardia camelliae* on, in Japan, 166.

—, *Pestalozzia theae* on, in Sumatra, 324.

—, *Rosellinia arcuata* and *R. bunodes* on, in India, 48; Sumatra, 324.

Tebecit, use of, against *Pullularia pullulans* on wood pulp, 314.

Technique, book on, 33; for applying fungicides to wood, 477; for the artificial feeding of elm bark beetles, 273; for aseptic handling of media, 534; for cotton selection against *Fusarium* wilt, 198; for cultivating anaerobes and micro-aerophiles, 424; *Histoplasma capsulatum* on chick membrane, 79; wood-rotting fungi, 176; for demonstrating fluorescence in bacteria, 365; for detecting *Actinomyces scabies* on potato, 156; bacteria on flat surfaces, 17; *Corynebacterium sepedonicum* on potato, 390; *Fusarium* on cereals, 10; plant viruses by stains, 90; X disease of peach, 387; for determining fungus growth rates, 384; relative humidity at the leaf surface, 154; respiration rates of tobacco mosaic plants, 392; settling rate and fractionation of dusts, 297; tobacco mosaic virus protein, 473; for estimating copper in soil, 347; infection of hops by *Pseudoperonospora humuli*, 391; sodium lignosulphonate, 477; for extracting virus inactivator from yeast, 465; for fine adjustment of microscope, 33; for fixing Petri dishes to a mechanical stage, 384; for germinating *Puccinia graminis* uredospores, 132; for grass seed disinfection, 372; for the growth of plants in nutrient solutions, 156; for the identification of viruses, 61; for inactivating tobacco mosaic virus, 48; for isolating fungus spores, 385; for making permanent slide labels in the tropics, 214; for measuring infection of tomatoes by *Alternaria solani*, 354; for mould counts in tomato juice, 309; for mounting fungi, 498; for obtaining *Beauveria bassiana* spores, 253; for recording localities on specimen labels, 351; for selecting wheat resistant to *Puccinia graminis*, 188; for simultaneous measurement of carbon dioxide and organic volatiles in fruit and vegetables, 295; for staining *Actinomyces scabies*, 217; wood tissues, 175; for storing demonstration specimens, 33; for studying fungicidal action, 422; the growth of a fungus, 464; for testing timber

preservatives, 277; for using coin mats for cover glasses and slides, 153.

Tennessee 26, use of, against *Cocomyces hiemalis*, 148.

— 34 copper, use of, against *Phyllosticta solitaria* on apple, 441.

— tribasic, use of, against *Septoria lycopersici*, 245.

Tephrosia candida, *Fomes lignosus* on, in Sumatra, 323.

— — and *T. vogelii*, *Rosellinia arcuata* on, in Sumatra, 324.

Termites, Basidiomycetes in nests of, in Madagascar, 333.

Tetrachloro-para-benzoquinone, see Spergon.

Tetrachlorophenol, use of, as a paint preservative, 498; timber preservative, 436.

Tetrachloroquinone, see Spergon.

Tetraethylthiuram monosulphide, use of, against dermatomycoses, 383; *Sphaerotheca pannosa*, 384.

Tetramethylthiuram disulphide injury, 383.

— —, use of, against *Botrytis tulipae*, 384; *Corticium solani* and *Sclerotinia homoeocarpa* on *Agrostis*, 493; *Corticium solani* and *Sclerotinia homoeocarpa* on turf, 383; *Venturia inaequalis*, 384; as a *Phaseolus lunatus* seed treatment, 511.

— monosulphide, use of, against *Trichophyton*, 383.

Textiles, British Standard specifications for rot proofing, 89.

T.F.O. oil N.K.P.M., use of, as a spreader, 341.

Thamnotettix argentala transmitting tobacco yellow dwarf, 540.

Thamnolith, composition of, 358.

Thea, see Tea.

Theobroma cacao, see Cacao.

Thiamin B, in relation to growth of *Pythium*, 91.

Thiazol, effect of, on growth of fungi, 390.

Thielaviopsis basicola on *Atropa belladonna* in U.S.A., 222.

— — on cotton in U.S.A., 431.

— — on lupin in U.S.A., 293.

— — on *Primula obconica* in Holland, 431.

— — on tobacco, 167; in U.S.A., 431, 516, 539; breeding against, 539; control, 167; varietal reaction to, 516.

Thiosan, see Tetramethylthiuram disulphide.

Thuja plicata, *Polystictus versicolor* and *Poria incrassata* on, resistance to, 312.

— —, *Poria weiri* on, in U.S.A., 508.

Thyrospora synonym of *Pleospora*, 224.

(?) *Tilletia*, *Erianthus capensis* on, in S. Africa, 305.

— *caries* on wheat, see under Wheat.

— *foetida* on wheat, see under Wheat.

— *horrida* on rice in U.S.A., 128.

Tilia americana, see Basswood.

Timber, *Ceratostomella* on, in Canada, Scandinavia, and U.S.A., 177.

— — *coerulea* on, control, 435.

— — *ips* on, 435; in U.S.A., 175.

— — *pilifera* on, 435; in U.S.A., 175.

— — *pluriannulata* on, 435; in U.S.A., 175.

— — *Coniophora puteana* on, 436, 477, 509.

— — *decay*, 176; in U.S.A., 57; resistance of Uganda spp. to, 434.

— — *Diplodia natalensis* on, in U.S.A., 175.

— — *Endoconidiophora coerulescens* on, in U.S.A., 175.

— — *Fomes annosus* on, penetration of, 110.

— — *igniarius* on, biochemistry of, 232.

— — *pini* on, 110; in Canada, 476.

[Timber], *Graphium rigidum* on, in U.S.A., 175.

— —, *Hormiscium gelatinosum* on, 436.

— —, *Hormonema* on, in Finland, 59.

— —, *Lentinus lepideus* on, in Canada, 476.

— —, *squamosus* on, 436.

— —, *Lenzites* on, in Finland, 59.

— —, *abietina* on, 436.

— —, *sepiaria* on, in Canada, 476; U.S.A., 397.

— —, *trabea* on, 110; in Canada, 476.

— —, *Merulius lacrymans* on, 316, 436, 509; in Portugal, 266; control, 316; factors affecting, 436, 509.

— —, microorganism-resisting glues for, 437.

— —, *Mucor* on, in Finland, 59.

— —, *Paxillus acherantius* on, in Portugal, 266.

— —, *panuoides* on, 509.

— —, *Phellinus cryptarum* on, *Xestobium rufovillosum* in relation to, 271.

— —, *Polyporus schweinitzii* on, 110.

— —, *Poria incrassata* on, in U.S.A., 397.

— —, *vaporaria* on, 436.

— —, *vulgaris* on, in Canada, 476.

— —, *weiri* on, 110.

— —, *xanthe* on, in Canada, 476.

— —, preservation by the Boucherie process, 235; the Card process, 357; injection, 277; the Lowry process, 108; the open-tank method, 109, 509; osmosis, 277, 509; painting, 277; sap expulsion, 277; the two stage diffusion treatment, 107; vacuum pressure, 277.

— —, cost of, 110.

— — in Australia, 315, 407; New S. Wales, 111; S. Africa, 109; Sweden, 509; Trinidad, 509; Uganda, 435; U.S.A., 108, 109, 112, 357, 475.

— — with arsenic salts, 315, 509; ascu, 399; basilite, 277; 2-chloro-ortho-phenolphenol, 436; coal tar creosote, 357, 399, 407; coal tar oil, 277; copper sulphate, 235; creosote, 108, 109, 111, 311, 315, 435, 475, 476, 509; creosote petroleum, 109; diesel oil, 509; electrified copper solution, 357; ethyl mercuric chloride, 436; fluorine-chromium-arsenic-dinitro mixture, 277; fluorine-chromium-dinitro mixture, 277; fluralsil, 277; gloss oil, 311; hydrochloric acid, 436; melanoid, 311; mercuric chloride, 277; nickel sulphate, 107; oil, crankcase, 109; pentachlorophenate, 315; pentachlorophenol, 59, 436; permatal, 177; santobrite, 177; sodium arsenate, 107; sodium chromate, 107; sodium dichromate, 436; sodium dinitrophenolate, 436; sodium fluoride, 315, 476; sodium silicofluoride, 476; sulphite lye, 476; tar shale, 477; tetrachlorophenol, 436; trichlorophenol, sym., 436; triolith, 109; Wolman salts, 108, 109, 315; zinc chloride, 107, 109, 277, 315, 357, 436, 509; zinc-met-arsenite, 109, 277; zinc oxide, 315; zinc sulphate, 109.

— — preservatives, comparison of, in U.S.A., 109.

— —, DIN DVM 2176 process for testing, 277.

— —, report on, in U.S.A., 358.

— —, *Schizophyllum commune* on, 508.

— —, *Stereum purpureum* on, 311.

— —, *Trametes americana* on, in Canada, 476.

— —, *serialis* on, 110; in Canada, 397, 476; U.S.A., 397.

Titaeospora andropogonis on sorghum, *S. halepense*, *S. saccharatum*, and sudan grass in U.S.A., 286.

Titania, revision of the genus, 101.

Tobacco (*Nicotiana tabacum*) as a test plant for potato viruses A and Y, 218.

— — aubera mosaic, serology of, 425; X-rays in relation to mutation in, 343.

[Tobacco], *Bacterium solanacearum* on, in Java, 227.

- , banana virus can infect, 88.
- , broad ring spot in U.S.A., 539; hosts of, 540.
- , *Cercospora nicotianae* on, in Ecuador, 164.
- , chilli mosaic affecting, in Puerto Rico, 401; transmission of, by *Myzus persicae*, 401.
- , *Colletotrichum* on, in U.S.A., 269.
- , *Corticium solani* on, in Brazil, 246.
- , cranberry false blossom can infect, 340.
- , cucumber mosaic affecting, in Canada, 506.
- , *Fusarium oxysporum* var. *nicotianae* on, in U.S.A., 516.
- , leaf curl in Africa, 167; hosts of, and transmission of, by *Trialeurodes natalensis*, 167.
- , spot, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* in relation to, 268.
- , mosaic, 48, 49, 50, 51, 90, 102, 169, 228, 229, 267, 307, 308, 324, 343, 352, 392, 425, 429, 465, 473; in Brazil, 102; Canada, 429; Japan, 160; U.S.A., 227, 516; U.S.S.R., 51; Venezuela, 324; breeding against, 227, 308, 516; chemistry of, 49; control, 51, 102, 430; distribution of, in host, 307; effect of, on enzymes of host, 307; of nitrogen content on, 169; on respiration, 392; factors affecting, 50, 392; inactivation of virus of, by chemicals, 48; by ribonuclease, 392; by yeast, 465; in relation to chilli 'blanching', 404; intracellular inclusions caused by, 169; longevity of, 429; particle size of, 307; *Plantago* strain named *Marmor tabaci* var. *plantaginis*, 228; proteolytic activity of, 267; reaction of *Nicotiana glutinosa* and *N. glauca* grafts to, 51; separation of, from tobacco necrosis, 169; serology of, 352, 425; staining method for detecting, 90; translations of early papers on, 343; types of, 49; ultrafiltration of, 90; varietal reaction to, 227, 308; virus content of detached leaves, 228; virus of, affecting chilli, 102, 160; *Plantago*, 228; virus protein of, 228, 229, 473; X-rays in relation to mutation in, 343.
- , necrosis, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* in relation to, 268; separation of, from tobacco mosaic, 169; ultrafiltration of, 90.
- , *Peronospora nicotianae* on, in the Argentine, 226.
- , *tabacina* on, in U.S.A., 499, 505, 506; spore dispersal of, 499.
- , *Petunia* leaf curl can infect, 168.
- , (?) phosphorus deficiency in, in U.S.A., 516.
- , *Phytononas polycolor* on, in the Philippines, 167; (?) identical with *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, 167.
- , *Phytophthora parasitica* var. *nicotianae* on, in Java, 226; Mauritius, 126.
- , *Plantago major* virus on, in U.S.A., 227, 516.
- , *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* on, in relation to leaf spot and necrosis, 268.
- , — *angulata* on, in U.S.A., 166, 308, 431, 517, 540; factors affecting, 308, 431; overwintering of, 167, 308, 517.
- , — *tabaca* on, in U.S.A., 166, 308, 431, 540; factors affecting, 308, 431; overwintering of, 167.
- , pseudo-peh sim in Sumatra, 473; transmission of, by *Bemisia gossypiperda*, 473.
- , ring spot in U.S.A., 168; ultrafiltration of, 90.
- , severe etch, intracellular inclusions of, 61.
- , streak virus in U.S.A., 516; transmission of, by dodder, 516; to *Melilotus*, 516.
- , *Thielaviopsis basicola* on, 167; in U.S.A., 431, 516, 539; breeding against, 539; control, 167; varietal reaction to, 516.
- [Tobacco], tomato spotted wilt affecting, in New S. Wales, 244.
- virus 1, antagonism between other viruses and, 268; *Nicotiana* virus 6 distinct from, 268.
- white or yellow bud in U.S.A., 505.
- yellow dwarf in Queensland, New S. Wales, and S. Australia, 430; Victoria, 430, 540; transmission of, by *Thamnotettix argentata*, 540.
- mosaic on tobacco in Japan, 170.
- Toluol, toxicity of, to *Sclerotium rolfsii*, 127.
- Tomato (*Lycopersicum esculentum*), *Alternaria solani* on, in New S. Wales, 309; U.S.A., 126, 230, 269, 354, 432, 440; control, 126, 230, 269, 309; *Epirix cucumeris* in relation to, 269; factors affecting, 432; technique for estimating infection of, 354.
- , — tomato on, in Canada, 53.
- , — aucuba mosaic on, 169, 307; in Japan, 170; distribution of, in host, 307; intracellular inclusions of, 169.
- bacterial wilt in S. Australia, 125.
- , *Bacterium solanacearum* on, in Ceylon, 66; Japan, 171; Java, 102; U.S.A., 217; Victoria, 91; bacteriophage of, 171; control, 102; physiologic study on, 91; varietal reaction to, 66.
- , — *tumefaciens* on, 67, 186, 541; in England, 36; control, 36; growth substances in relation to, 67, 186; micrurgical study on, 541; pathogenic action of, 67.
- , beet curly top affecting, in U.S.A., 230; transmission of, by *Eutetrix tenellus*, 230.
- blossom-end rot, 172, 393; in Chile, 443; U.S.A., 104, 353, 541; control, 104; factors affecting, 104, 393, 541; varietal reaction to, 353.
- , boron deficiency in, in Canada and U.S.A., 310.
- bushy stunt, serology of, 425; ultrafiltration of, 90.
- , *Cladosporium fulvum* on, in Canada, 122; England, 172; New Zealand, 3; Spain, 404; U.S.A., 353, 452; control, 3; in relation to asthma of man, 452; varietal reaction to, 3, 122, 172.
- , *Colletotrichum atramentarium* on, in Germany, 431; S. Australia, 103.
- , copper deficiency in, in Western Australia, 92.
- , corcova, see Tomato spotted wilt.
- , *Corynebacterium michiganense* on, 474; in Canada, 53; U.S.A., 353; U.S.S.R., 172; legislation against, in S. Africa, 240; serological diagnosis of, 172; varietal reaction to, 474.
- , — *sepedonicum* can infect, 346.
- , cranberry false blossom can infect, 340.
- , curly top in U.S.A., 103.
- , *Didymella lycopersici* on, in England, 542.
- diseases in Great Britain, 103; U.S.A., 432; injury caused by seed disinfection against, 507; by wheels of sprayers and dusters used against, 542; sprays for control of, 308.
- , enation mosaic, intracellular inclusions caused by, 169.
- , *Fusarium bulbigenum* var. *lycopersici* on, 393; in Brazil, 246; England, 212; Italy, 543; U.S.A., 127, (?) 269, 353, 386, 393, 432, 543; breeding against, 393, 543; culture of, 393; factors affecting, 269, 386; varietal reaction to, 127, 432, 543.
- krommek, relation of, to tomato spotted wilt (q.v.), 354.

{Tomato] leaf roll in Germany, 229.
 —, lightning injury to, in U.S.A., 231.
 —, lucerne mosaic can infect, 516.
 —, manganese deficiency in, in Canada, 310; S. Africa, 467; U.S.A., 310, 506; control, 467, 507; effect of, on vitamin C content of, 310.
 —, mosaic in New S. Wales, 122; Venezuela, 324; distribution of, in host, 307.
 —, moulds in juice of, in U.S.A., 309.
 —, *Petunia* leaf curl can infect, 168.
 —, *Phoma destructive* on, in Spain, 404.
 —, — *terrestris* can infect, 118.
 —, *Phytonomas vesicatoria* var. *raphani* on, in U.S.A., 52. (Cf. *Xanthomonas vesicatoria*.)
 —, *Phytophthora capsici* can infect, 118.
 —, — *infestans* on, in England, 474; Switzerland, 497.
 —, — *parasitica* on, in Canada, 53, 170.
 —, pitting in U.S.A., 474.
 —, ring spot virus on currants in U.S.A., 495.
 —, root necrosis in Germany, 431; etiology of, 431.
 —, rugose mosaic in India, 342; transmission of, by *Bemisia gossypiperda*, 342.
 —, *Septoria lycopersici* on, in the Argentine, 5; U.S.A., 230, 245.
 —, spotted wilt, 354, 425; in the Argentine, 5, 481; England, 293; Mexico, 352; New S. Wales, 244, 309; U.S.A., 293; control, 244, 309, 481; hosts of, 244; serology of, 425; types of, 354; virus of, affecting lupin, 293.
 —, striping in U.S.A., 474.
 —, *Stemphylium sarciniforme* on, in Spain, 404.
 —, tip blight, relation of, to tomato spotted wilt (q.v.), 354.
 —, tobacco leaf curl can infect, 167.
 —, *Verticillium albo-atrum* on, in England, 213; New Zealand, 3; U.S.A., 542.
 —, *vira cabeça*, relation of, to tomato spotted wilt (q.v.), 354.
 —, *Xanthomonas vesicatoria* on, in Bermuda, 321; Canada, 53; U.S.A., 52, 341; factors affecting, 341; variations in, 52; varietal reaction to, 52.
Torula in relation to asthma and hay fever of man in U.S.A., 16.
 — on flax in Australia, 370.
Torulaspora alkoholi and its var. *azymatica* on man in Germany, 79.
Torulopsis candida on wood pulp in Sweden, 58.
 — *glycosi* on man in Germany, 79.
 — *molischiana* on wood pulp in Sweden, 58.
 — *pulcherrima*, *Asporomyces uvae* renamed, 428.
Tragopogon porrifolius, see *Salsify*.
 — *pratinus*, potato yellow dwarf can infect, 264.
Trametes alaskana on pine and *Tsuga heterophylla* in Canada and U.S.A., 398.
 — *americana* on timber in Canada, 476.
 — *morganii* on oak and poplar in U.S.A., 397.
 — *persoonii*, pigment of, 36.
 — *serialis* on birch in U.S.A., 397.
 — — on spruce in Canada and U.S.A., 387.
 — — on timber, 110; in Canada, 476, 397; U.S.A., 397.
 Trees, diseases of, in U.S.A., 53, 310; of exotic, 275.
 —, surgery of, in Canada, 433.
 —, wound dressings for, 53.
Trialeurodes natalensis transmitting tobacco leaf curl, 167.
Trichloroethane, beta-, use of, against *Peronospora tabacina*, 505.
Trichlorophenol, sym., use of, as a timber preservative, 436.
 —, antagonistic to *Fusarium orthoceras* var. *ciceri*, 1.
 —, decomposition of sulphite liquors by, 278.
 —, on *Echinochloa crus-galli* in U.S.A., 21; *Anacanthus deplanatus* in relation to, 21.
 —, on pine in U.S.A., 174.
 — *viride*, antagonism of, to *Armillaria mellea*, 13; *Colletotrichum falcatum*, 162; *Corticium solani* and *Macrophomina phaseoli*, 76.
 — — in soil, 471; in U.S.S.R., 220.
 — — on date palm in U.S.A., 195.
 — — on maize in U.S.A., 72.
 — — on oak in U.S.A., 396.
 — — on wooden spools in Germany, 453.
 — (?), toxin of, 155.
Tricholaena rosea, *Phyllosticta sorghina* on, in U.S.A., 204; synonymy of, 204.
Tricholoma albobrunneum, auxin requirements of, 390.
 — *pessudatum* on pine and spruce forming mycorrhiza in Sweden, 389.
Trichophyton on man, 383.
 — *coccineum* on man in Japan, 199, 200.
 — *crateriforme* on man in India, 254; Venezuela, 254; variant of *T. tonsurans*, 254.
 — *glabrum* on man in Japan, 199, 200.
 — *gypsum* on man in U.S.A., 139.
 — — var. *radiolatum* on man in Japan, 199.
 — *interdigittale*, tendril formation in, 200.
 — *mentagrophytes*, effect of ultra-violet rays on, 301.
 — — and *T. rubrum*, tendril formation in, 200.
 — *sabouraudi* on man in Venezuela, 254.
 — *tonsurans*, *T. crateriforme* (q.v.) a variant of, 254.
 — *violaceum* on man in India, 254; Japan, 199, 200.
Trichosporium heteromorphum on wood pulp in Sweden, 58.
 (?) *Trichothecium* in the air in U.S.A., 290.
 — *roseum* on apple in U.S.A., 209.
 — — on cotton in the Argentine, 417.
 — — on pear in N. America, 531.
 — — on wooden spools in Germany, 453.
Trifolium, see *Clover*.
Trilith, composition of, and use of, as a timber preservative, 109.
 —, see also *Wolman salts*.
Triticum, see *Wheat*.
Trochilus ilicis on *Ilex aquifolium* in U.S.A., 395.
Tsuga (?) heterophylla, *Fomes annosus* on, in Canada, 544.
 — —, *Trametes alaskana* on, in Canada and U.S.A., 398.
 — — *yunnanensis*, *Chrysomyxa tsugae* on, in China, 45.
Tuburcinia, conservation of *Urocystis* against, upheld, 186.
Tulip (*Tulipa*), *Botrytis tulipae* on, 384; in the Argentine, 139.
 —, cucumber virus 1 on, in U.S.A., 18.
 —, lily mosaic viruses affecting, in U.S.A., 17.
 — virus 1, staining method for detecting, 90.
 — viruses 1 and 2 on tulip in U.S.A., 18.
Turf, *Corticium solani* on, 383.
 —, *Sclerotinia homoeocarpa* on, 383.
 —, see also *Grasses*.
Turmeric (*Curcuma longa*), *Colletotrichum curcumae* on, in Ceylon, 66.
 —, *Phyllosticta zingiberi* can infect, 471.
Turnip (*Brassica rapa*), boron deficiency in, calcium nutrition in relation to, 60.
 —, *Phoma lingam* on, in New S. Wales, 123.
 —, *Plasmodiophora brassicae* on, in England, 317; Norway, 478.

Typhula on *Agrostis vulgaris* in U.S.A., 142.
 (?)—on clover, grasses, lucerne, *Melilotus*, and wheat in Canada, 143.
 — *itoana* on *Agrostis vulgaris* in U.S.A., 142.
 — *trifolii*, 342.

Ulmaceae, mycorrhiza of, in U.S.A., 313.

Ulmus, see Elm.

Ultra-violet rays, effect of, on cheese moulds, 79; *Trichophyton mentagrophytes*, 301.

— use of, for detecting *Corynebacterium sepedonicum* on potato, 390; estimating sodium lignosulphonate, 477; to induce mutations in *Neurospora crassa*, 467.

Ultrawet, use of, as a spreader, 361.

Uncaria gambier, *Fomes lignosus* on, in Sumatra, 324.

Uncinula australis on *Lagerstroemia* in Hawaii, 350.

— *neocator* on vine in U.S.A., 318.

Urea, use of, against *Thielaviopsis basicola* on tobacco, 167; X disease of peach, 296.

Uredinales of cereals in U.S.S.R., handbook on, 283.

— of Portugal, 504; S. Africa, 47.

Uredo spp. on orchids in Puerto Rico, 202.

Urocystis, conservation of, against *Tuburcinia* upheld, 186.

— *agropyri* on *Hordeum nodosum* in U.S.A., 294; transmission of, to *Agropyron caninum* and *Elymus canadensis*, 294; *U. tritici* synonym of, 294.

— *americana* synonym of *U. occulta*, 186.

— *andina* synonym of *U. anemones*, 186.

— *anemones*, *U. andina* synonym of, 186.

— *cepulae* on onion in U.S.A., 386.

— *gladioli* on gladiolus, *Papulaspora gladioli* in relation to, 258.

— *occulta* on rye in U.S.A., 293; hosts of, 293.

—, *U. americana* synonym of, 186.

— *tritici* on wheat in India, 1, 327; S. Australia, 124; breeding against, 124, 328; hosts of, 293; physiologic races of, 328; synonym of *U. agropyri*, 294; varietal reaction to, 1, 124, 328.

Uromyces appendiculatus on beans, 181; in New S. Wales, 244; Switzerland, 497; Venezuela, 360; breeding against, 181; control, 244, 497; physiologic races of, 181; varietal reaction to, 244, 360.

— on *Cicer arietinum* in Tanganyika, 282.

— *betae* on beet in Rumania, 405; Spain, 404.

— *caryophyllinus* on carnation in Venezuela, 324.

—, toxicity of copper sulphate to, 422.

— *dactylidis* on *Dactylis glomerata* in Switzerland, 203.

— f. sp. *bulbosi-dactylidis* on *Dactylis aschersoniana* and *Ranunculus valdepubens* in Switzerland, 203.

— f. sp. *repenti-dactylidis* on *Dactylis aschersoniana* and *Ranunculus repens* in Switzerland, 203.

— *dolicholi* on pigeon pea in S. Africa, 47.

— *fabae*, cytology of, 243.

— on broad bean in Brazil, 246; Chile, 443; Iran, 99.

— *fallens* on red clover in U.S.A., 22.

— *festucae* f. sp. *ovinae* can infect *Festuca capillata* and *F. ovina*, 203.

— — — on *Festuca duriuscula* in Switzerland, 203.

— f. sp. *rubrae* can infect *Festuca rubra*, 203.

— f. sp. *rupicaprina* can infect *Festuca halleri*, 203.

— — — on *Festuca rupicaprina* in Switzerland, 203.

[*Uromyces*] *graminis* on *Foeniculum vulgare* in Portugal, 303; transmission of, to *Melica ciliata*, 303.

— — on *Melica ciliata* in Portugal, 303; perfect stage of *Aecidium foeniculi*, 303; transmission of, to carrot, *Coriandrum sativum*, and parsley, 303.

— *janiphiae* on cassava in Ecuador, 163.

— *striatus* on lucerne in Tanganyika, 282.

— *trifolii* on clover in Iran, 99.

— *vignae*, cytology of, 243.

Uspulun, use of, against *Alternaria zinniae*, 492; *Septoria gladioli*, 130.

Ustilaginales, method for characterizing, 166.

Ustilago avenae on oats in India, 327; New S. Wales, 124; U.S.A., 8, 251, 326, 329, 330, 367, 441, 446, 522; breeding against, 251, 327, 329, 367; control, 124, 326, 327; effect of, on yield, 251; physiologic races of, 251, 446; varietal reaction to, 8, 251, 327, 329, 330, 367, 441, 446, 522.

—, *U. perennans* a race of, 12.

— — and *U. perennans* hybrids, 11.

— *bromivora* on *Bromus unioloides* in S. Australia, 493.

— *bullata* on *Agropyron trachycaulum*, *Bromus catharticus*, *B. marginatus*, *Elymus canadensis*, *E. glaucus*, and *Hordeum nodosum* in U.S.A., 294.

— *courtoisi* wrongly identified as *Cintractia pulverulenta*, 305.

— *crameri* on *Setaria italica* in Canada, 121; U.S.A., 20.

— *hordei* on barley, 383; in the Argentine, 247, 518; U.S.A., 10, 522; non-pathogenio hybrid variant of, 522; control, 383, 518; varietal reaction to, 247.

— *kollerii* on oats in India, 327; New S. Wales, 124; U.S.A., 8, 10, 251, 326, 329, 330, 367, 441, 446, 522; breeding against, 251, 327, 329, 367; control, 124, 326, 327; effect of, on yield, 251; varietal reaction to, 8, 251, 327, 329, 330, 367, 441, 446, 522.

— *microthelis* on *Erianthus asper* in Brazil, 305.

— *neglecta* on *Setaria lutescens* in U.S.A., 20; cultural study on, 20.

— *nigra* on barley in U.S.A., 522; non-pathogenio hybrid variant of, 522.

— *nuda* on barley in the Argentine, 518; Germany, 252; U.S.A., 445, 484; breeding against, 484; control, 518; male sterility in relation to, 445.

— *perennans* on oats in U.S.A., 12.

— — a race of *U. avenae*, 12.

— — and *U. avenae* hybrids, 11.

— *poei* f. sp. *repenti-pratensis* can infect *Poa angustifolia*, 203.

— — — on *Poa pratensis* and *Ranunculus repens* in Switzerland, 203.

— *pulverulenta* on *Saccharum* in India, 305; renamed *Cintractia pulverulenta*, 305; *U. courtoisi* wrongly identified as, 305.

— *scitaminea* on sugar-cane in the Argentine, (?) 5, 98, 481.

— *sphaerogena* on *Echinochloa crus-galli* in U.S.A., 20.

— *tritici* on wheat, see under Wheat.

— *zeae* on maize, 330, 523; in the Argentine, 518; U.S.A., 194, 205, 448, 522; U.S.S.R., 12; Venezuela, 351; auxin from, 523; breeding against, 330; factors affecting, 12, 522; pathogenicity of, 194; varietal reaction to, 448.

Ustulina zonata on *Hevea* rubber in Dutch E. Indies, 42.

— — — on plum in Tanganyika, 281.

UT 1875 A, effect of, on wheat germination, 444.

Vaccinium australe, stunt of, in U.S.A., 496.

— *macrocarpon* and *V. oxyccoccus*, see Cranberry.

— *vitis-idaea*, *Calyptospora goeppertiana* on, in Sweden, 350.

Valsa intermedia on oak in U.S.A., 272.

— *leucostoma* in S. Africa, 46.

Valsaceae, list of, in S. Africa, 46.

Variation in relation to taxonomy of fungi, 306. (See also Saltation.)

Vegetables, diseases of, in England, 59; Southern Rhodesia, 477; storage and transit, 316; nature of resistance to, 59; seed treatments against, 112.

Venturia acerina on *Acer rubrum* in U.S.A., 274; *Cladosporium humile* imperfect stage of, 274.

— *inaequalis* on apple, see under Apple.

— *pirina* on pear, see under Pear.

Verbascum blattaria and *V. thapsus*, potato yellow dwarf can infect, 264.

Verderame dust, use of, against *Isariopsis fuckelii* on vine, 279.

Verticillium on cotton in Peru, 517.

— on lucerne in Germany, 336.

— on walnut in U.S.A., 311.

— *albo-atrum* on *Chrysanthemum* in U.S.A., 203; *V. dahliae* (?) identical with, 203.

— on cotton in U.S.A., 253.

— on gooseberry in New Zealand, 29.

— on *Helichrysum bracteatum* in U.S.A., 202; host range of, 202.

— on potato in Chile, 470.

— on strawberry in U.S.A., 340.

— on tomato in England, 213; New Zealand, 3; U.S.A., 542.

— *dahliae*, growth of, in soil, 471.

— (?) identical with *V. albo-atrum*, 203.

— on cotton in S. Africa, 416.

Vetch (*Vicia* spp.), *Corticium solani* on, in U.S.A., 515.

— pea mottle can infect, 293.

Vicia faba, see Beans.

Vigna sesquipedalis mosaic in U.S.A., 514; transmission of, by *Macrosiphum pisi* and by seed, 514; to bean and cowpea, 514.

— *unguiculata*, see Cowpea.

Vinco rosea, aster yellows affecting, in U.S.A., 257; transmission of, by *Macrosteles divisus*, 257.

Vine (*Vitis*), *Bacterium tumefaciens* on, and black rot and bitter rot of, in U.S.A., 318.

—, boron excess in, in U.S.A., 26.

—, *Cercospora* on, in U.S.A., 318.

—, — *brachypus* on, in U.S.A., 64; *Mycosphaerella* the perfect stage of, 64.

—, — *viticola* on, in Venezuela, 324.

—, chlorosis, 528.

—, *Coniothyrium dipladiella* on, in Switzerland, 280.

—, cranberry false blossom on, in U.S.A., 340; transmission of, by *Cercospora campestris*, 340.

—, *Cryptosporella viticola* on, in U.S.A., 318.

—, — *amelina* on, in Brazil, 319; Chile, 480, 481; U.S.A., 318; Venezuela, 324; control, 318, 319, 480; varietal reaction to, 319, 480.

—, — *Glomerella cingulata* on, in U.S.A., 318.

—, — *Glynnardia bidwellii* on, in Chile, 443; U.S.A., 318; Venezuela, 324.

—, — *Isariopsis clavigpora* on, in U.S.A., 318.

—, — *fuckelii* on, in S. Africa, 278.

—, manganese deficiency in, in S. Africa, 467.

—, *Melanconium fuligineum* on, in U.S.A., 318.

[Vine], moulds on fruit of, in Australia, 407; S. Africa, 319.

—, *Mycosphaerella angulata* on, in U.S.A., 239; *Cercospora brachypus* imperfect stage of, 239; pests, control of, by sporein, 253.

—, — *Phakopsora vitis* on, in Venezuela, 324.

—, *Phytophthora omnivorum* on, in U.S.A., 318.

—, Pierce's disease of, in U.S.A., 4, 278.

—, *Plasmopara viticola* on, in Brazil, 319; Bulgaria, 402; Germany, 241, 430, 479; Italy, 210; Spain, 402; Switzerland, 183, 270, 497, 515; U.S.A., 318; control, 240, 241, 270, 318, 319, 402, 430, 479, 497, 515; factors affecting, 402, 480; varietal reaction to, 319, 479.

—, — *Uncinula necator* on, in U.S.A., 318.

Vinegar, use of, against moulds in bread, 342.

Virginia creeper (*Parthenocissus*), *Elsinoe parthenocissi* on, in U.S.A., 455.

Viricuivre, see Copper oxychloride.

Viruses, antagonism between, 267.

—, intracellular inclusions caused by, 61, 169, 291.

—, nomenclature of, 343, 535.

—, simulation of symptoms of, by tannins, 466.

Vitis, see Vine.

Walnut (*Juglans*), *Armillaria mellea* on, in U.S.A., 311.

—, (?) *Bacterium tumefaciens* on, in Spain, 403.

—, black line of, in U.S.A., 311.

—, boron excess in, in U.S.A., 26.

—, *Cudophora*, *Chaetomium*, *Fusarium*, *Gloeosporium*, *Pachybasium*, *Ramularia*, *Rhizoctonia*, and *Verticillium* on, and winter injury to, in U.S.A., 311.

—, *Xanthomonas juglandis* on, in England, 24; Portugal, 243; U.S.A., 310.

Watercress (*Nasturtium officinale*) diseases in Great Britain, 316.

Watermelon (*Citrullus vulgaris*), *Fusarium bulbigenum* var. *niveum* on, in U.S.A., 362, 440, 442.

—, mosaic in U.S.A., 4.

Wax emulsion, use of, against citrus moulds, 369.

—, (brytene 480 AM), use of, against apple scald, 457.

Wheat (*Triticum*), *Alternaria* on, in Australia, 406; Canada, 121; U.S.S.R., 9.

—, *Bromus* yellow mosaic can infect, 371.

—, *Cercospora herpotrichoides* on, in England, 521; S. Australia, 124.

—, *Claviceps purpurea* on, in New Zealand, 452.

—, copper deficiency in, in Western Australia, 68.

—, *Corticium solani* on, in Canada and England, 412.

—, diseases in U.S.A., 189; control, 187; effect on stored grain of seed treatment against, 444, 482.

—, *Erysiphe graminis* on, 521; in England, 35; S. Australia, 124; U.S.S.R., 191; breeding against, 124, 521; effect of lithium on, 35; overwintering of, 191; physiologic races of, 521; varietal reaction to, 124, 521.

—, *Fusarium* on, 10; in Australia, 250, 406; Canada, 121, 366; method for detecting, 10; varietal reaction to, 260.

—, — *cultorum* on straw of, in England, 134.

—, *Gibberella saubinetii* on, in U.S.A., 386.

—, *Helminthosporium* on, in Australia, 406.

—, — *sativum* on, in the Argentine, 518; Canada, 121, 366; U.S.S.R., 9; control, 9.

—, — *teres* on, in the Argentine, 518.

[Wheat], manganese deficiency in, in England, 468.
 — mosaic virus, inactivation of, by heat, 483.
 — —, winter, in U.S.S.R., 251; biochemistry, diagnosis, and hosts of, 251.
 —, *Ophiobolus graminis* on, 11, 133, 445, 520; in the Argentine, 246, 518; Australia, 405, 519, 520; (?) India, 1; S. Australia, 124; Spain, 404; breeding against, 520; control, 124, 445, 519, 520; factors affecting, 11, 445, 519, 520; grasses in relation to, 133.
 —, *Penicillium* on straw of, in England, 134.
 —, *Phoma terrestris* can infect, 118.
 —, *Puccinia* on, in Rumania, 249.
 —, — *glumarum* on, in the Argentine, 187, 518; China, 410; England, 154; physiologic races of, 410; *Tilletia caries* in relation to, 154; varietal reaction to, 187, 518.
 —, — *graminis* on, 132, 188, 445; in the Argentine, 184, 187, 247, 518; Australia, 283; Canada, 121, 132, 189, 468; China, 410; Peru, 517; Rumania, 249; S. Australia, 124; U.S.A., 187, 189, 248, 283, 284, 387; barberry eradication against, 445; breeding against, 124, 188, 189, 517; control, 249; earliest epidemic of, in U.S.A., 284; effect of, on yield, 248; factors affecting, 132, 189, 387; germination of, 132; physiologic races of, 132, 184, 187, 189, 283, 410, 468; varietal reaction to, 124, 132, 187, 189, 249, 468.
 —, — *triticina* on, in the Argentine, 187, 518; Brazil, 133; China, 410; England, 35; S. Australia, 124; U.S.A., 481; U.S.S.R., 190; breeding against, 124; control, 35; factors affecting, 481; physiologic races of, 133, 410; varietal reaction to, 124, 133, 187, 190, 518.
 —, pupation disease of, in U.S.S.R., 251; diagnosis of, 251.
 —, *Pythium aristosporum* on, in U.S.A., 367.
 —, — *arrhenomanes* on, in U.S.A., 366.
 —, *Sclerospora macrospora* on, in U.S.A., 8.
 —, *Septoria graminum* on, in Iran, 99.
 —, — *nodorum* on, in the Argentine, 187; Germany, 306.
 —, — *tritici* on, in the Argentine, 187.
 —, *Tilletia caries* on, in the Argentine, 246, 250, 518; England, 154; S. Australia, 124; U.S.A., 10, 133, 249, 284, 326, 329, 386; U.S.S.R., 190, 519; breeding against, 124, 519; control, 10, 279, 326, 518; factors affecting, 386, 387; legislation against, in Rumania, 279; monograph on, 190; physiologic races of, 284, 329; *Puccinia glumarum* in relation to, 154; varietal reaction to, 124, 133, 190, 246-7, 249, 284, 329.
 —, — *foetida* on, 190; in the Argentine, 246, 250, 518; S. Australia, 124; U.S.A., 10, 249, 284, 326, 329, 386, 519; breeding against, 124, 519; control, 10, 279, 326, 518; factors affecting, 386, 387; legislation against, in Rumania, 279; monograph on, 190; physiologic races of, 284, 329; varietal reaction to, 124, 246-7, 249, 284, 329.
 —, (?) *Typhula* on, in Canada, 143.
 —, *Urocystis tritici* on, in India, 1, 327; S. Australia, 124; U.S.A., 293; breeding against, 124, 328; hosts of, 293; synonym of *U. agropyri*, 294; varietal reaction of, 1, 124, 328.
 —, *Ustilago tritici* on, in the Argentine, 184, 187, 518; England, 154; Germany, 252, 411; India, 69, 327; U.S.A., 387; U.S.S.R., 191; breeding against, 327, 328; control, 69, 327, 412; factors affecting, 387; geographical distribution of, 411; physiology of, 191; varietal reaction to, 327, 518.
 [Wheat] viruses 1 and 1A, diagnosis of, 251.
 —, zinc deficiency in, in Victoria, 483.
 Wireworm (*Agriotes*), *Sorosporella uvelia* on, in England, 451.
 Wolman salts, composition of, 358.
 —, use of, as a timber preservative, 108, 109, 315.
 Wood pulp, *Coniophora puteana* and *Corticium calceum* on, 357.
 —, effect of heartwood decay on, 274.
 —, *Fomes annosus* and *Lenzites betulina* on, 357.
 —, list of fungi on, in Sweden, 58.
 —, *Phoma A*, *P. conidiogena*, and *P. lignicola* on, in Sweden, 315.
 —, *Polyporus arcularius* and *Polystictus hirsutus* on, 357.
 —, *Polystictus versicolor* on, 357; in Sweden, 314.
 —, *Pullularia pullulans* on, in Sweden, 314.
 Wooden spools, microflora of, 453.
 Wort, *Botrytis cinerea* on, in U.S.A., control, 153.
 Wound dressings for trees, 276.
 X-rays in relation to mutations in *Neurospora crassa*, 154, 467; in tobacco *aucuba* mosaic and tobacco mosaic, 343; in *Xanthomonas stewarti* on maize, 343, 523.
Xanthomonas, lipolytic activity of, 517.
 — *begoniae* on *Begonia* in Portugal, 243; U.S.A., 5.
 — *campestris* on broccoli in Bermuda, 321.
 — on *Matthiola incana* in New S. Wales, 291.
 — *citri* on lemon (?) in Spain, 352.
 — *hyacinthi* as a food for soil protozoa, 283.
 — *juglandis* on walnut in England, 24; Portugal, 243; U.S.A., 310.
 — *malvacearum* as a food for soil protozoa, 283.
 — on cotton, see under Cotton.
 — *phaseoli* as a food for soil protozoa, 283.
 — on beans in Spain, 243.
 — *pruni* on plum in New Zealand, 2.
 — *stewarti* on maize in U.S.A., 330; taxonomy of, 282; X-rays in relation to mutation in, 343, 523.
 — *translucens*, taxonomy of, 446.
 — *vasculorum* on sugar-cane in Mauritius, 98; Queensland, 303.
 — *vesicatoria* on chilli in U.S.A., 52, 237; variations in, 52.
 — on tomato in Bermuda, 321; Canada, 53; U.S.A., 52, 341; factors affecting, 341; variations in, 52; varietal reaction to, 52.
Xestobium ruffovillosum in relation to *Phellinus crypharum* on timber, 271.
Xylaria (?) *apiculata* on potato in U.S.A., 95.
 — (?) *longeana* on *Ginkgo biloba* in U.S.A., 273.
Xylobiops basilaris in relation to *Ceratostomella ulmi* on elm, 104.
 Xylol, use of, against *Peronospora tabacina*, 505.
Xylosandrus germanus in relation to *Ceratostomella ulmi* on elm, 104.
 Yeasts, preservation of, by desiccation, 488.
 —, review of, 44.
Zea mays, see Maize.
 Zinc, use of, against zinc deficiency in flax and wheat, 483.
 — arsenite, use of, against *Corticium* on fig, 297; *Sclerotinia laxa* on stone fruit, 420.
 — chloride, use of, as a timber preservative, 107, 109, 277, 315, 357, 436, 509.

[Zinc] deficiency, 125; in flax in Victoria, 483; lucerne and *Medicago* in S. Australia, 125; oats in S. Australia, 69, 125; orange in U.S.A., 536; pea in Western Australia, 92; pine in Western Australia, 397; potato in England, 219; U.S.A., 441; in relation to pineapple crook-neck, 183; potato sickness, 219; sunflower in U.S.A., 536; swede in Western Australia, 92; wheat in Victoria, 483.

—-meta-arsenite, composition of, 358.

— —, use of, as a timber preservative, 109, 277.

— oxide, use of, as a timber preservative, 315.

— paint, use of, as a wound dressing, 276.

— sulphate, effect of soil applications of, on pineapple crook-neck, 183.

[Zinc sulphate], use of, against potato sickness, 219; *Septoria (?) citri*, 73; zinc deficiency in oats in S. Australia, 68; in potato, 441; as a timber preservative, 109.

— tetrachlorophenate, use of, as a paint preservative, 498.

Zingiber officinalis, see Ginger.

Zinnia, *Alternaria zinniae* on, in Germany, 492.

—, *Cercospora atricincta* on, in Venezuela, 324.

(?)— *elegans*, tomato leaf curl can infect, 167.

ZO, use of, against *Cocomyces hiemalis*, 148.

Zopfia rhizophila on asparagus in Germany, 65.

Zostera marina, *Labyrinthula (?) macrocystis* on, in Canada and U.S.A., 298.

Zygapichia peptoni on man in Germany, 79.

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